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Surat International Textile & Machinery Expo - SITME 2026

Food & Beverages, SGCCI Global Village and Women Entrepreneur Exhibition



SGCCI

ધી સધર્ન ગુજરાત ચેમ્બર ઓફ કોમર્સ એન્ડ ઇન્ડસ્ટ્રી

ACT WITH ONE MIND

ACTIVITIES OF SGCCI



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Your valuable suggestions on this issue of Samruddhi are most welcome

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Hon. Secretary



CA Mitish Modi
Hon. Treasurer



SITME-2026: A Landmark Exhibition of Advanced Textile Machinery at Sarsana

The Surat International Textile and Machinery Expo (SITME-2026) was successfully organized from January 9 to 12, 2026, at the Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre (SIECC) in Sarsana. This premier event was a joint initiative by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) and the Surat Embroidery Association.

The inauguration ceremony took place on January 9, 2026, at 10:30 AM. The Collector and District Magistrate of Surat, Dr. Saurabh Pardhi, attended as

the inaugurator, and SITME-2026 was inaugurated by his auspicious hands. On this occasion, Mr. Kailash Hakim, President of the Federation of Surat Textile Traders Association (FOSTA), and Mr. Ajay Ajmera, CEO and Founder of Ajmera Fashions Limited, remained present as guests of honor.

In his welcome address, the Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Ashok Jirawala, stated that the textile industry is the country's highest employment-generating industry after agriculture.





Textile has a major contribution to Surat's development; through the SITME exhibition, the holistic development of the textile industry will be possible." — Collector and District Magistrate Dr. Saurabh Pardhi

Approximately 24 lakh people in Surat city are receiving employment through the textile industry. Around 2 lakh embroidery machines are operational in Surat, through which special encouragement is being given to women empowerment. Currently, more than 2 lakh women are associated with the embroidery sector. He mentioned that for the first time, even two domes fell short for the SITME exhibition, which demonstrates the enthusiastic participation of industrialists.

The Collector and District Magistrate of Surat, Dr. Saurabh Pardhi, stated that the textile industry has had a significant contribution to the overall development of Surat. The embroidery sector has played a special role in taking the textile industry to new heights. In this exhibition, a massive display of cutting-edge technology and modern machinery of the textile sector is being presented, which will give industrialists an opportunity to adopt new technology, and through it, the holistic development of the textile industry will become possible. Collector Dr. Pardhi further added that this national-level exhibition would receive an unprecedented response from the industrial world and would further empower Surat's textile industry.

The Joint Secretary of the Surat Embroidery Association, Mr. Sanjay Jha, stated that in India's largest textile machinery exhibition, two domes have been completely filled. More than 100 leading brands of embroidery machinery are being displayed under one roof in this exhibition, which is a significant achievement for the industry. He said that the embroidery sector



Address by SGCCI Vice President Shri Ashok Jirawala to Entrepreneurs

has made remarkable progress in the last twenty years and today this sector has reached new heights.

The Chamber's All Exhibitions Chairman, Mr. Kiran Thummar, conducted the inauguration ceremony. The then Immediate Past President of the Chamber Mr. Vijay Mewawala, Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, President of the Surat Embroidery Association Mr. Manohar Tekchandani and members, Past President of the Chamber CA P.M. Shah, All Exhibitions Co-Chairman Mr. Nirav Mandlewala, and exhibitors remained present.

66 exhibitors participated in the SITME exhibition at Sarsana, which included exhibitors from Surat as well as Ahmedabad, New Delhi, Pune, Rajkot, Thane, and Valsad. Along with

embroidery machinery, parts, threads, yarns, beads, and other ancillary products were also displayed in this exhibition.

Position embroidery machinery was launched for the first time in the SITME expo in Surat. This machinery will make hand-work and khatli-work possible, which will play an important role in the development of various segments of the textile industry such as position printing, embroidery, jacquard, and schiffli segments.

A nylon bead wire specially made for embroidery bead machinery was launched for the first time in India at the SITME exhibition in Surat. Additionally, a live demo was presented with a Maya Zardosi device on a single-head embroidery machine in this exhibition.

Possibility of over 850 crore rupees investment in advanced textile machinery, including embroidery, through the SITME-2026 exhibition

Investment in embroidery machinery will provide further momentum to the development of the garment industry in Surat. Chamber President Nikhil Madrasi

Exhibitors received a tremendous response as more than 39 thousand buyers and visitors from across the country visited the 'SITME-2026' exhibition organized jointly by the Chamber of Commerce and the Surat Embroidery Association.

The 'Surat International Textile and Machinery Expo - SITME 2026' was held from January 9 to 12, 2026, between 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM at the Surat International Exhibition

and Convention Centre, Sarsana, under the joint auspices of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Surat Embroidery Association, which received a tremendous response from buyers, traders, and businessmen from across the country.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasi stated that a rush of buyers was seen at the SITME exhibition from the very first day. With 7,082 on the first day, 11,786 on the second day, 15,280 on the third day, and 4,860 today on the fourth day, a total of 39,008 buyers, traders, and businessmen visited



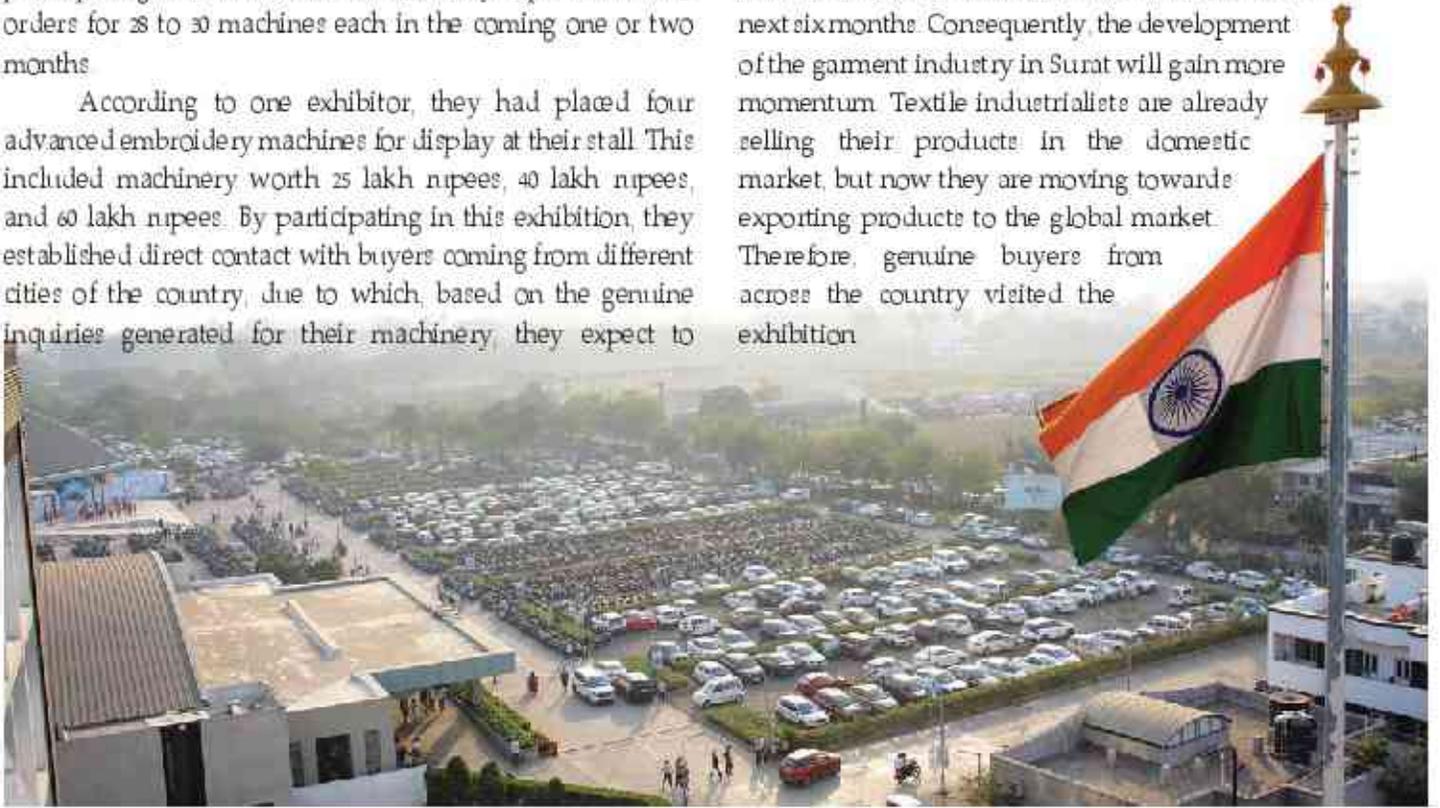
SITME over four days, making it a grand success.

In the SITME exhibition, around 200 machines of 100 brands, including embroidery and textile machinery, were displayed. Machinery ranging from 5 lakh rupees to 60 lakh rupees was showcased in this exhibition in which the 60 participating exhibitors indicated that they expect to receive orders for 28 to 30 machines each in the coming one or two months.

According to one exhibitor, they had placed four advanced embroidery machines for display at their stall. This included machinery worth 25 lakh rupees, 40 lakh rupees, and 60 lakh rupees. By participating in this exhibition, they established direct contact with buyers coming from different cities of the country, due to which, based on the genuine inquiries generated for their machinery, they expect to

receive orders for a total of 25 machines within a month.

New technology is being upgraded every year in embroidery machinery and digital printing machinery. Industrialists with old machinery are now investing in new technology; therefore, exhibitors expressed hope that thousands of new machines would be sold in the next six months. Consequently, the development of the garment industry in Surat will gain more momentum. Textile industrialists are already selling their products in the domestic market, but now they are moving towards exporting products to the global market. Therefore, genuine buyers from across the country visited the exhibition.





Mr. Nikhil Madrasi
President of SGCCI



Ms. Anarben Patel
Chairperson of the Khodalidham Organization



Mr. Shane Getson
MLA Chair of Alberta Economic Corridor Canada



Ms. Jackie Lovely
MLA of Alberta Canada



Mr. Raj Modi,
Honorable Deputy Minister of Industry
and Commerce of Zimbabwe



Dr. Pheny Butale,
Minister of International Relations of Botswana

A joint organization of 'Food and Beverages', 'SGCCI Global Village', and 'Women Entrepreneur Exhibition' was conducted by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Southern Gujarat Chamber Trade and Industries Development Centre from January 24, 25, and 26, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre located in Sarsana.

On Saturday, January 24, 2026, at 11:00 AM, the inauguration ceremony of all three exhibitions was held at Ushakant Marfatia Hall, Sarsana, Surat, in which the Chairperson of the Khodalidham Organization and Founder and Director of Craftroots - Crafting Stories, Stitching Cultures, Ms. Anarben Patel, attended as the inaugurator and inaugurated the exhibitions.

As special guests in the inauguration ceremony, MLA Chair of Alberta Economic Corridor Canada, Mr. Shane Getson; Minister of International Relations of Botswana, Dr. Pheny Butale; and Honorable Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce of Zimbabwe, Mr. Raj Modi, remained present. While MLA of Alberta Canada, Ms. Jackie Lovely; Director of the National MSME Board, Mr. Pradip Peshkar; CEO of Ghana Free Zones Authority, Dr. Mary Auvusi; and Vice President of KREMAG Association, Mr. Ishwar Parmar, graced the occasion as guests of honor. The Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus based in India, Mr. Viraj Kulkarni, joined online as a guest of honor.

Delivering the welcome address, Chamber of Commerce President Mr. Nikhil Madrasi stated that the presence of national and international distinguished personalities will make these three exhibitions an important platform for creating new opportunities for global trade, investment, and cooperation for the industrialists and traders of Surat and the entire South Gujarat. In these exhibitions, entrepreneurs, manufacturers, and traders will find new business opportunities. Various countries will be able to present their products and trade possibilities on one platform. Simultaneously, women will receive encouragement for self-employment, innovation, and leadership.

Inaugurator Ms. Anarben Patel stated that giving women a place in the mainstream amidst hardcore business is extremely commendable. The Chamber gives special priority to women empowerment, as a result of which women entrepreneurs will receive encouragement. On this occasion, she appealed to everyone present to encourage women entrepreneurs.



Mr. Pradip Peshkar
Director of the National MSME Board



Mr. Ashok Jirawala
Vice President of SGCCI



CA Mitish Modi
Hon. Treasurer of SGCCI



Mrs. Mayuriben Mewawala
Chairperson of Ladies Wing, SGCCI



Mr. K.B. Pipaliya,
Chairman of Food & Beverages Expo



Mr. Sanjay Punjabi,
Chairman of SGCCI Global Village



Under the presence of international guests, all three exhibitions were inaugurated by the Chairperson of the Khodaldham Organization, Ms. Anarben Patel.

by making purchases from their stalls. Additionally, she suggested giving importance to the agro and craft sectors in the exhibition. She said that 20 to 25 million people in India are associated with the craft sector. She is making efforts toward establishing a Craft University in the country for the development of this sector.

Referring to a study conducted by Harvard University, she stated that to do business successfully in India, it is extremely necessary to understand the Indian mindset, because the spirit of helping is widely seen here. Along with this, relationships are given great importance in India, and this matter plays a decisive role in business as well. She said that the organization of three different exhibitions under one roof by the Chamber and the presence of international guests in it demonstrates their capability.

MLA Chair of Alberta Economic Corridor Canada, Mr. Shane Getson, stated that he has come to Surat to come into direct contact with Indian entrepreneurs. He said that Canada's trade relations with India are constantly becoming stronger, and vast opportunities are available in the Alberta province in sectors such as investment, agri-business, food processing, energy, and technology. Through such exhibitions, industrialists of both countries get an excellent platform for networking and cooperation, which will give a new direction to

bilateral trade in the future.

Minister of International Relations of Botswana, Dr. Phenyio Butale, invited Surat's entrepreneurs to invest in Botswana. He said that Botswana is a politically stable country and is known for its business-friendly policies. He stated that vast opportunities are available in sectors such as minerals, agriculture, diamond, food processing, tourism, and manufacturing. Due to strong bilateral relations between India and Botswana, Botswana can become a reliable and profitable destination for investment for the entrepreneurs of Surat, he added.

Honorable Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce of Zimbabwe, Mr. Raj Modi, invited the professionals of Surat to visit industries in Zimbabwe.

Director of the National MSME Board, Mr. Pradip Peshkar, gave detailed information about various schemes provided to industries by the MSME Ministry and asked entrepreneurs to come forward for manufacturing in the defense sector.

Chairperson of the Chamber's Ladies Wing, Mrs. Mayuriben Mewawala, gave information regarding the Women Entrepreneur Exhibition. She stated that 110 women entrepreneurs have participated in the Women Entrepreneur Exhibition. Here, they are displaying products from various segments such as

“Giving women a place in the mainstream amidst hardcore business is an extremely commendable matter; the Chamber gives special priority to women empowerment, as a result of which women entrepreneurs will receive encouragement.” : Ms. Anarben Patel

health, consumer durables, ready-made garments, fashion and fitness equipment, skin and health care, handloom and handicraft dress materials, fashion accessories, traditional wear and sarees, jewellery, interior decoration items, designer lounge, as well as food and beverages.

Chairman of the Food and Beverages Expo, Mr. K.B. Pipaliya, gave detailed information about the Food and Beverages exhibition. He said that 165 exhibitors have participated in this expo, in which food processing equipment and machinery, packaging machinery and materials, cold chain equipment and refrigeration appliances, warehousing and cargo handling, food testing laboratories, insurance agencies, financial solutions, dried and frozen food, bakery and groceries, beverage, food parks, and consumer packaged goods are being displayed in the food processing sector.

Chairman of SGCCI Global Village, Mr. Sanjay Punjabi, gave information about the Global Village exhibition. He stated that exhibitors from

Dubai, Australia, Japan, Thailand, and Afghanistan participated in the SGCCI Global Village exhibition. Exhibitors from Dubai are displaying real estate and tourism, exhibitors from Australia are displaying visa processing as well as council services; and exhibitors from Afghanistan are displaying dry fruits, spices, and carpets. Exhibitors from Japan are displaying logistics and courier services. Additionally, through the Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam concept, more than 12 stalls have been kept from self-help groups and from Gujarat, Maharashtra, and especially Bhuj.

Chamber Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala thanked everyone present at the ceremony. Chamber Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi conducted the inauguration ceremony. The then Immediate Past President of the Chamber Mr. Vijay Mewawala, Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, Chamber's All Exhibitions Chairman Mr. Kiran Thummar, and Co-Chairman Mr. Nirav Mandlewala, exhibitors, entrepreneurs, and professionals remained present at the ceremony.

Tremendous response from buyers to Food and Beverages, SGCCI Global Village, and Women Entrepreneur Exhibition

Exhibitors received a tremendous response from buyers as more than 29 thousand people visited the exhibitions in three days; the time had to be extended by one hour each on Sunday and Monday due to heavy crowds.

The three exhibitions were not merely platforms for purchasing, but served as a vibrant reflection of trade and entrepreneurship at local, national, and international levels. Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasani

Chamber of Commerce President Mr. Nikhil Madrasani stated that a total of 5,780 people on the first day (Saturday), 12,340 on the second day (Sunday), and 11,560

on the third day (Monday) visited the exhibition and purchased various products, which includes 2080 visitors who came from outside Surat. In this manner, a total of 29,680 people visited the exhibition in three days. Due to the large number of visitors, the participating exhibitors received an excellent professional response.

Particularly, the food and beverages sector, bakery products, home decor, fashion, and lifestyle products received special preference from buyers. Due to attractive schemes like 'Buy One Get One Free' in bakery products, constant crowds were seen at the exhibitors' stalls throughout all three days.





Surat Police Commissioner Mr. Anupam Singh Gahlaut visited the exhibition with his wife. Similarly, Surat City BJP President Mr. Paresh Patel also visited the exhibition. Due to the heavy crowd on Sunday and Monday, the exhibition time was extended by one hour until 8 PM, so that buyers who came with families got an opportunity to shop.

The women entrepreneurs participating in the Women Entrepreneur Exhibition also received a very good response from buyers. Handmade, fashion, food, and lifestyle products prepared by women received special preference. It was clearly seen that women empowerment received a boost as the Chamber gave priority to women entrepreneurs. This exhibition proved to be important in the direction of empowering women entrepreneurs professionally.



In the SGCCI Global Village Expo, exhibitors from Afghanistan, Australia, Dubai, and Japan also received a very good response from buyers. Besides these four participating countries, foreign visitors from countries including Canada, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Cyprus, Ghana, and Lesotho also visited the exhibitions. The unique dry food products presented by Afghan exhibitors received a tremendous response from buyers.

These three exhibitions organized by the Chamber of Commerce were not merely platforms for purchasing, but served as a vibrant reflection of trade and entrepreneurship at local, national, and international levels, Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai further added.

A program in collaboration with the South Gujarat Productivity Council regarding growth through digital technology in trade and industry



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with the South Gujarat Productivity Council, organized a program on the subject of 'Growth through Digital Technology in Trade and Industry' on Friday, January 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM at Sarhadi, Sarasana, Surat, under the 'Productivity

with Progress' program series. Digital transformation expert Mr. Amit Saluja provided detailed guidance to the entrepreneurs and professionals.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai stated that in today's competitive era, adopting digital technology for trade

and industry is no longer an option but has become an unavoidable necessity. The Chamber is always constantly striving to connect its members with new technology and modern business ideologies.

The President of the South Gujarat Productivity Council, Mr. Nirav Rana, stated in his welcome speech that efficiency, transparency, and competitiveness in the global market can be increased through digitalization. He said that digitalization is extremely necessary in trade and industry.

Mr. Amit Saluja stated that capacity utilization can be known based on real data, such as how much output is generated by a machine in industry and business. Generally, MSME plants do not have the right level of data; therefore, operational visibility, machine efficiency, how much loss occurs on the machine, how much downtime there is, and for what reason it occurs cannot be properly known. If MSME industrialists can bring additions to the system and change the processing level, they can also increase capacity using digital technology. Based on digital technology, if we can improve the downtime of each machine by 15 minutes per shift, we can increase capacity by 3%. If we can reduce scrap in the plant by 1%, we can increase the profit margin by up to 3%.

He stated that even today, decision-making in many factories happens manually, but by adopting appropriate digital tools according to the size of the business, production capacity and profitability can be increased by reducing costs. He advised entrepreneurs that sustainability is important in trade and industry. While maintaining consistency in industry, one should think in the direction of growing the business by 2% to 7%. He also explained the business benefits achieved through digital technology using various examples and case studies.

Chamber Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jarwala, entrepreneurs, and professionals remained present in the program. Former President of the Chamber and South Gujarat Productivity Council, Mr. Arvind Kapadia, introduced the speaker. Former President of the Chamber, Mr. Ashish Gujarati, thanked everyone present in the program. Chamber Group Chairman Dr. Anil Saraogi gave the outline of the program, while Group Chairman Mr. Sanjay Punjabi conducted the program.

A Q&A session was also held for the members present in the program, in which Mr. Amit Saluja gave satisfactory answers to various questions related to trade and industry, after which the program concluded.



Mr. Amit Saluja
Digital
Transformation
Expert

Program on 'Credit Guarantee Schemes' for MSME Units



Around 15 schemes are operational; exporters, MSMEs, and Startups of Surat must take advantage of three of them: Mr. Durgesh Pandey

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), in collaboration with the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company



Mr. Bijal Jariwala
Hon. Secretary of SGCCI



Mr. Durgesh Pandey
CEO and Whole-Time
Director
of NCGTC (Mumbai)



Mr. Rajkumar Goyal
Head of Government Products (MSME)
at Bank of Baroda's Corporate Office

Limited (NCGTC) and Bank of Baroda, organized a special program on the subject of 'Credit Guarantee Schemes' on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at 3:00 PM at Ushakant K. Marfatia Hall, Sarsana, Surat. The primary objective of this program was to increase financial accessibility by informing MSME units, exporters, and startups about the credit guarantee framework operated by the government.

Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, in his welcome address, stated that the Chamber is constantly striving to provide an international platform for the industries of Surat and South Gujarat to boost exports.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Durgesh Pandey, CEO and Whole-Time Director of NCGTC (Mumbai), provided detailed information on various government schemes. He noted that many small entrepreneurs remain deprived of credit due to a lack of proper information.

He highlighted that while there are approximately 15 credit guarantee schemes, three are particularly vital for Surat's entrepreneurs:

1. Scheme for Exporters: Introduced in response to American tariffs, providing a 100% credit guarantee from the government. The government intends to provide support up to 20,000 crore.

2. Mutual Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs: A hybrid model featuring a flexible repayment period and a 2-year moratorium period.

3. Startup Scheme: Designed for startups that lack physical assets. Under this, Alternate Investment Funds (AIF) can also provide loans alongside banks. He urged banks not to overemphasize collateral.

Mr. Rajkumar Goyal, Head of Government Products (MSME) at Bank of Baroda's Corporate Office, emphasized that MSMEs are the backbone of the Indian economy. He guided the audience on:

- The role and digital journey of Bank of Baroda.
- Incentives and facilities provided by the banking sector.
- Encouraging indirect exporters to also come forward and benefit from these schemes.

Mr. Chakrapani from Bank of Baroda delivered a detailed presentation on the bank's specific MSME products.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, including CA Mitish Modi, Honorary Treasurer of the Chamber; Dr. Jayna Bhakta, Chairperson of the Banking (Co-operative Sectors) Committee; and senior officials from Bank of Baroda, including Mr. Nirmal Patel, Mr. Mukesh Naval, and Mr. Vivek Kumar Singh. The program concluded with an 'Open House' session moderated by CA Rajiv Kapasiawala, where experts spent 20 minutes answering various questions from exporters and entrepreneurs. Former President Mr. Ashish Gujarati expressed the vote of thanks to all attendees.



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI) organized a session on "The Mathematics of Karma" as part of the Jeevan Ganit Mahotsav on Monday, 5th January 2026 at 5:00 PM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat

The keynote speaker, Padma Shri Dr. Jagdish Trivedi - humorist, writer, poet, artist, philosopher, and philanthropist - elaborated on the difference between the mind and the heart. He explained that while the mind may bring material gains, decisions

taken from the heart lead to spiritual fulfillment

He emphasized that karma is a natural law, stating, "As you sow, so shall you reap," highlighting it as a fundamental truth of life.

Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala delivered the welcome address. Former President Mr. Vijay Mevawala introduced the speaker. Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi proposed the vote of thanks, and Past President & Session Chairman Mr. Rupin Pachchigar conducted the session.

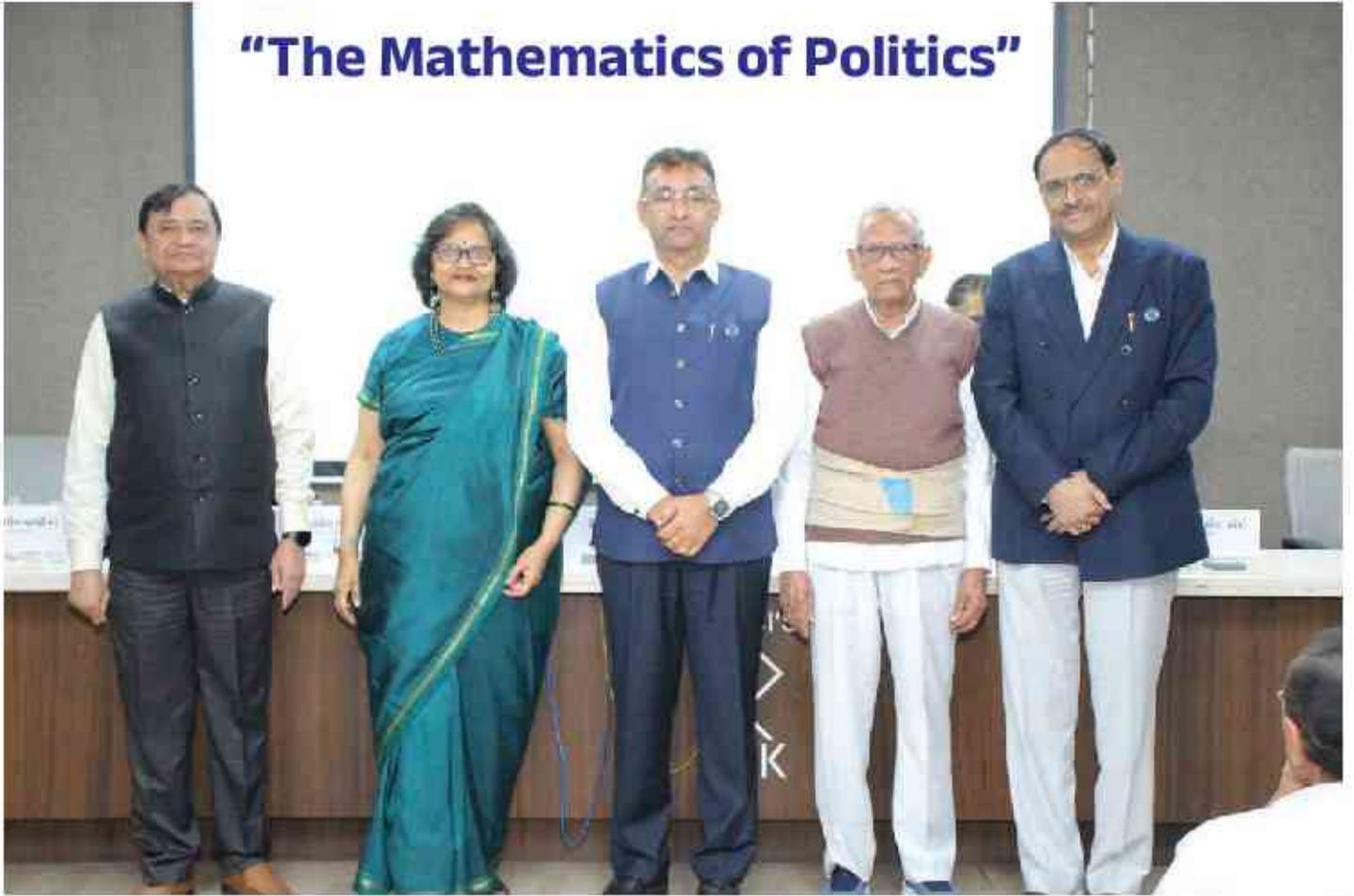


Mr. Ashok Jirawala
Vice President of SGCCI



Padma Shri Dr. Jagdish Trivedi

“The Mathematics of Politics”



On Tuesday, 6th January 2026, a session on “The Mathematics of Politics” was held at Samruddhi.

Senior journalist and author from New Delhi, Ms. Sheela Bhatt provided deep insights into political strategies, power dynamics, and electoral calculations.

She highlighted that politics is not governed solely by mathematics but also by destiny and ethics. Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Prime

Minister Indira Gandhi, she explained the elements of stable leadership. She also emphasized the political significance of states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Former Mayor of Surat, Mr. Fakirbhai Chauhan, attended as Guest of Honour. Mr. Vijay Mevawala delivered the welcome address, CA Mitish Modi introduced the speaker, and Mr. Rupin Pachchigar conducted the session.



Mr. Vijay Mevawala
Imm. Past President
of SGCCI



Ms. Sheela Bhatt
Senior Journalist and
Author



Mr. Fakirbhai Chauhan
Former Mayor of Surat



On Wednesday, 7th January 2026, motivational speaker Mr. Paras Pandhi delivered an inspiring talk on "The Mathematics of Love."

He explained that love does not involve arguments, and giving with expectations turns it into a transaction. "When 'I' and 'You' become 'We', relationships flourish; but when ego enters, they

become zero," he said.

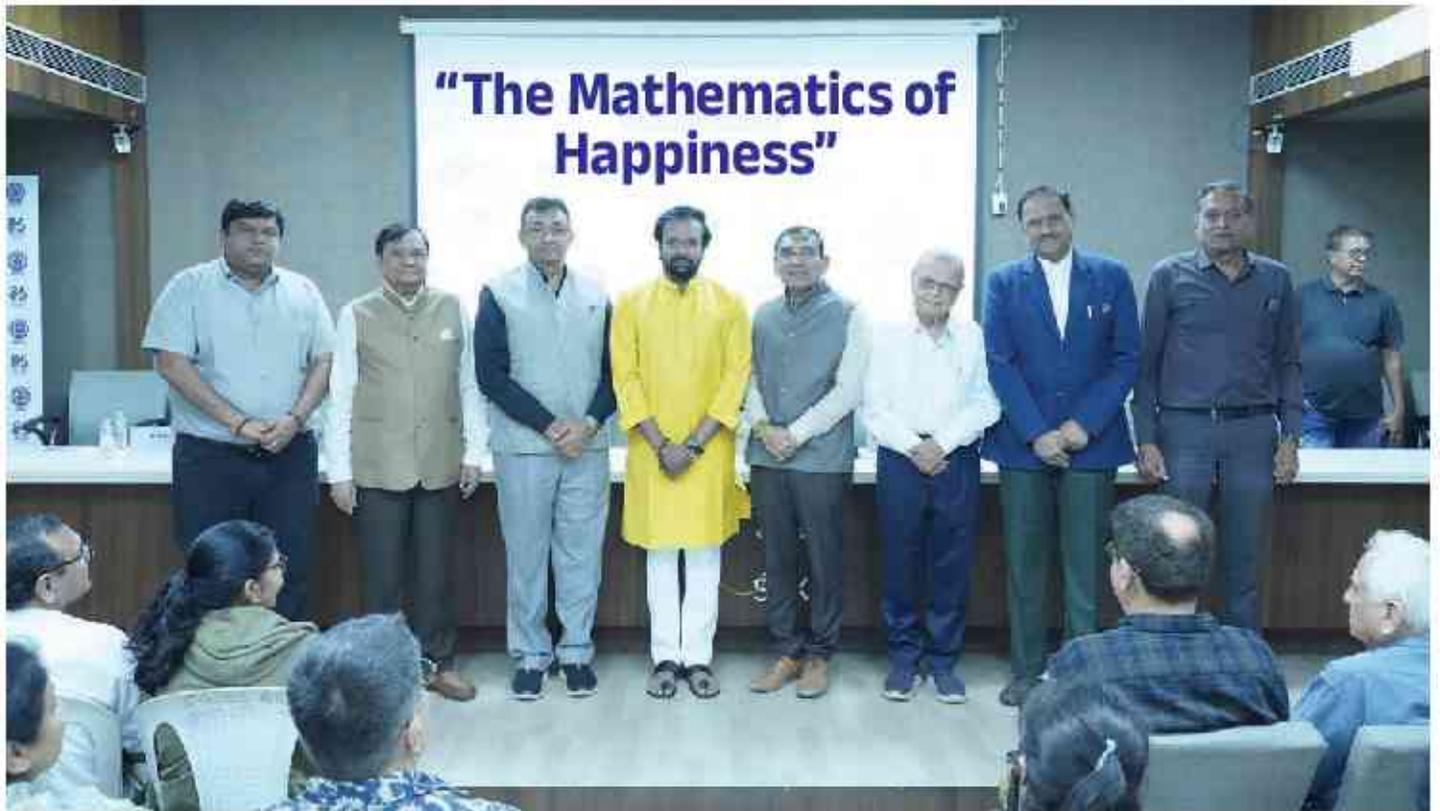
He described dedication, service, humility, and curiosity as the core foundations of love.

Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala delivered the welcome address, CA Mitish Modi introduced the speaker, and Mr. Rupin Pachchigar chaired and conducted the session.



Mr. Paras Pandhi
Motivational Speaker





On Thursday, 8th January 2026, poet Mr. Ankit Trivedi explained "The Mathematics of Happiness"

He stated that happiness lies not in saving but in upgrading oneself. He observed that while the present generation has advanced communication tools, meaningful conversations are declining.

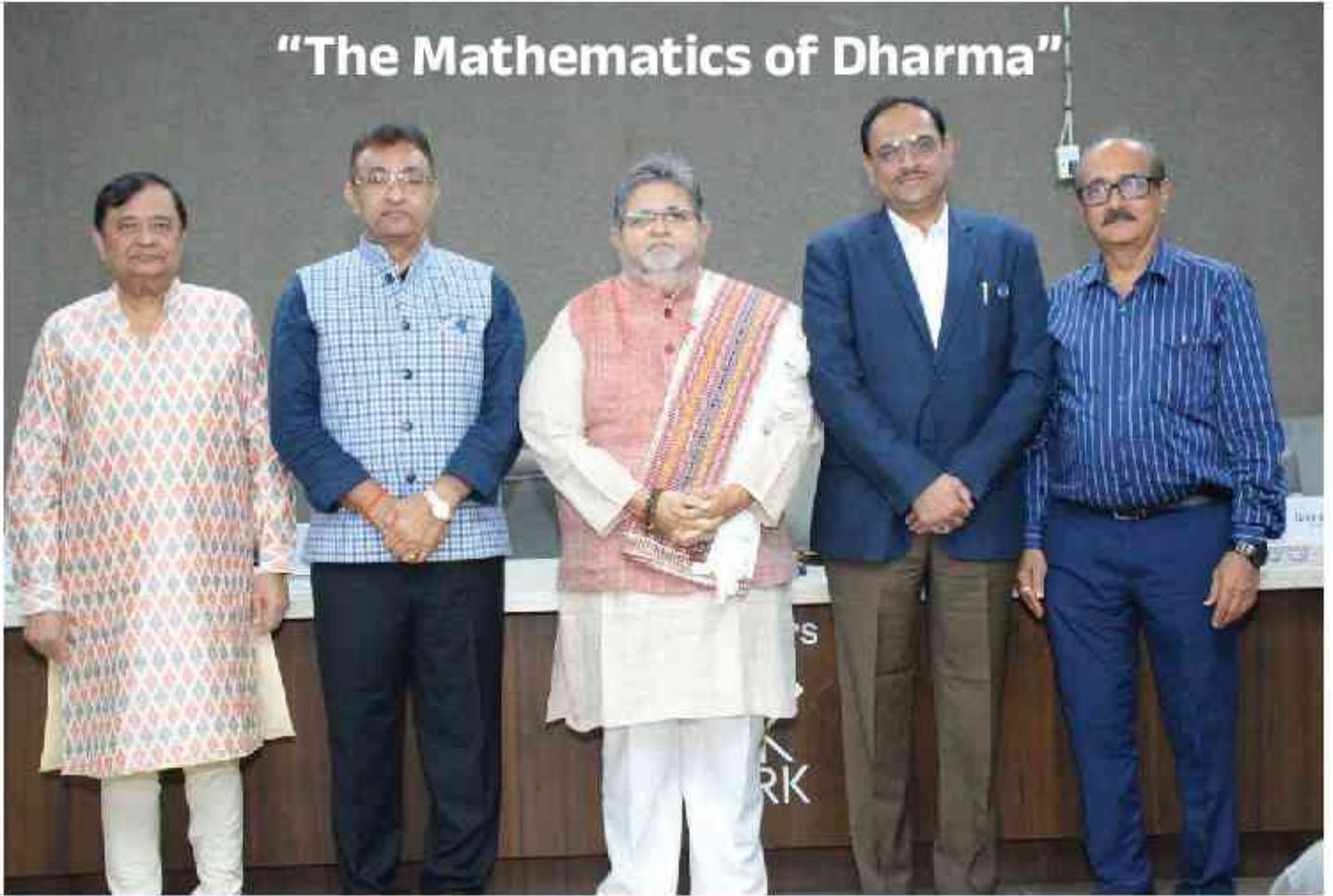
Padma Shri Yazdi Karanjia delivered a guest

address, emphasizing that creating heaven while living is the true essence of happiness.

Mr. Ashok Jirawala welcomed the gathering, Mr. Vijay Mevawala introduced the speaker, CA Mitish Modi proposed the vote of thanks, and Mr. Rupin Pachchigar conducted the session.



"The Mathematics of Dharma"



On Friday, 9th January 2026, renowned thinker Mr Bhadrayu Vachharajani spoke on "The Mathematics of Dharma."

Referring to Manusmriti and the Bhagavad Gita, he explained the ten virtues of dharma such as patience, forgiveness, self-control, truth, and non-anger.

He defined dharma as a guiding principle

that regulates personal conduct and clarified the distinction between religiosity and morality.

Group Chairman Mr. Deepak Kumar Shethwala was present. Mr. Vijay Mevawala delivered the welcome address, CA Mitish Modi introduced the speaker, and Mr. Rupin Pachchigar conducted the session and delivered the vote of thanks.



Mr. Vijay Mevawala
Imm. Past
President of SGCCI



Mr. Bhadrayu Vachharajani
Renowned Thinker



On Saturday, 10th January 2026, Dr. Nimitt Oza explained "The Mathematics of Emotions"

He stated that although emotions cannot be mathematically defined, understanding them is essential. He explained that emotions last for about 90 seconds, are contagious, and whatever emotion you express returns to you.

He emphasized, "If you have to demand an emotion, It is not genuine"

President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai was present. CA Mitish Modi introduced the speaker, and Mr. Rupin Pachchigar conducted the session and delivered the vote of thanks. Group Chairman Mr. Deepak Kumar Shethwala and members were also present.



Mr. Rupin Pachchigar
Past President of SGCCI



Dr. Nimitt Oza
Renowned Writer



On Sunday, 11th January 2026, at 10:30 AM, Dr Sharad Thakar delivered a session on "The Mathematics of Health". Dr. Mukul Choksi attended as Guest Speaker.

He emphasized, "Improve your breath balance, not just your bank balance." He highlighted the importance of regular check-ups, seeking second opinions, and maintaining a balanced lifestyle. He also discussed

the increased life expectancy due to advancements in modern medical science.

President Mr. Nikhil Madras, Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, Hon. Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, and Public Health Committee Chairperson Dr. Parul Vadgama were present. The session was conducted by Mr. Rupin Pachchigar.



Mr. Rupin Pachchigar
Past President
of SGCCI



Dr. Sharad Thakar

“Manojagat – Solutions to Your Problems”



A special session on mental health was organised on 3rd January 2026 at Samruddhi.

Renowned psychologist Dr. Mukul Choksi explained depression as a clinical condition and guided the audience on its symptoms and treatment.

Psychiatrist Dr. Palash Prajapati highlighted that suppressed emotions often manifest as physical pain. He also shared useful insights on insomnia and

anxiety management.

Hon. Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala delivered the welcome address. Group Chairman Mr. Rakesh Gandhi outlined the session, and Public Health Committee Co-Chairman Dr. Rajan Desai conducted the session and delivered the vote of thanks. The program was conducted in an interactive Q&A format.



Mr. Bijal Jariwala
Hon. Secretary of SGCCI



Dr. Mukul Choksi
Renowned Psychologist



Dr. Palash Prajapati
Psychiatrist

Appointment of Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasi as Trade Representative in the Government of India's Regional Direct Tax Advisory Committee



The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, has appointed Mr. Nikhil Madrasi, President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), as a Trade Representative in the Regional Direct Tax Advisory Committee (RDTAC) for the regions of Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman & Diu. This appointment is a matter of pride for the entire trade and industrial world of South Gujarat.

The following appointments have been made in various categories of this committee:

- Trade Representative Category: Mr. Nikhil Madrasi, President, SGCCI.
- Member of Parliament Category: Mr. Bharat Manubhai Sutarjiya, Lok Sabha MP.
- State Government Representative Category: Mr. Kamal Dinkarray Shukla, Additional Commissioner of State Tax, Ahmedabad.
- Lawyer Dealing with Income-Tax Matters Category: Mr. Dhruvenkumar Vinodchandra Shah.
- Chartered Accountant Category: Mr. Sulabh Ureshkumar Padshah.
- Industry Representative Category: Mr. Janik Nautambhai Vakil.
- University Professors/College Principal Category: Dr. Shankar S. Sodha.
- Bank Manager Category: Mr. Hitesh Mahendra Dave.

The appointment of the Chamber of Commerce President as a Representative of Trade in the Regional Direct Tax Advisory Committee by the Government of India is a reflection of the trust placed in the industrialists and traders of South Gujarat. Through this committee, there will be an effective opportunity to positively present common questions and difficulties faced by taxpayers regarding income tax before the Government and the Income Tax Department. The Chamber has always acted as a bridge between trade-industry and the government and will continue to present constructive suggestions in the interest of taxpayers in the coming times.

The Chamber expressed hope that the appointment of its President to this important national-level committee will provide greater strength to the voice of South Gujarat's industrialists and traders at the policy level.

Educational Visit to Police Control Room to Increase Road Safety Awareness Among Students



The Traffic & Awareness Committee of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized an educational visit to the Surat City Police Control Room for the students of Sindhu Seva Samiti School on Tuesday, January 6, 2026. The primary goal was to enhance road safety awareness among students and explain the importance of following traffic rules.

During the visit, students were provided with detailed information regarding:

- Traffic Management: How the city's traffic flow is managed daily.
- Emergency Response System: The procedure for handling urgent calls and situations.
- CCTV Monitoring: Real-time surveillance of city activities and violations.
- Control Room Operations: The internal working mechanism of the police control hub.
- Accident Prevention: Steps taken by the department to minimize road accidents in Surat.

Police Sub-Inspector Mr. V.B. Varma, Assistant Sub-Inspector Mr. Narottambhai Mohanbhai, Head Constable Mr. Dhameshbhai Pradyumanbhai, and Woman Police Constable Ms. Nehalben Labhubhai provided the students with an understanding of traffic signals, road sense, the importance of using helmets and seatbelts, and the risks associated



with using mobile phones while driving. The police officers stated that road safety is not just about following rules but is the responsibility of every citizen. If students develop an understanding of traffic rules from childhood, the number of accidents can be reduced in the coming times. Along with this, practical information was also provided regarding the utility of the 112 number during emergencies and how immediate assistance can be obtained.

Mrs. Kaminiben Dumaswala, Chairperson of the Chamber of Commerce's Traffic and Awareness Committee, stated that this visit was organized with

the objective that students gain an understanding of the traffic system in real-world situations and make themselves as well as their family members aware of road safety. In the coming times, road safety awareness programs will be undertaken by the Chamber in various schools. During this visit, the students asked questions enthusiastically and cleared their doubts regarding traffic and road safety through direct dialogue with the police officers. Finally, the students and teachers expressed their gratitude to the Chamber of Commerce and the Surat City Police for this inspiring experience.

Joint Face-to-Face Business Meeting by Chamber's Women Entrepreneur Cell and JITO's Swayam Wing

The Women Entrepreneur Cell of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) and the Swayam Wing of the Jain International Trade Organization (JITO) jointly organized a Face-to-Face Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 5:00 PM at Amora, Surat. The event aimed to provide a platform for professional networking and cooperation among women entrepreneurs.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Shailesh Desai stated in his welcome address that women

entrepreneurs today are not limited just to business, but are driving forward new ideologies, new technology, and a new professional culture. Ms. Ankita Valand, Chairperson of the Chamber's Women Entrepreneur Cell, provided detailed information about the cell's activities and noted that the Chamber's primary goal is to create new business opportunities by connecting women entrepreneurs; she also announced the cell's next two Face-to-Face meetings.

Ms. Dhara Shah, Chairperson of JITO's Swayam





Wing, provided extensive information about JITO Swayam and its various activities, training programs, and business development efforts for the empowerment of women entrepreneurs.

The Face-to-Face business meeting remained the main attraction, providing women entrepreneurs an opportunity for direct dialogue and professional discussion. This session was successfully moderated by Women Entrepreneur Cell Advisor Mrs. Swati



Shethwala, along with Ms. Hiral Bavishi and Ms. Piyusha Chaudhary from JITO. During this session, women entrepreneurs from various sectors discussed their businesses, services, and possibilities for cooperation, resulting in the establishment of many new business connections. At the conclusion of the program, a vote of thanks was presented by Chamber member Dr. Bandana Bhattacharya, while Ms. Jinal Sanghvi thanked everyone present on behalf of JITO Swayam.

Session Organized on 'Cancer Awareness and Prevention'



The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an interesting and informative session on Cancer Awareness and Cancer Prevention on January 4, 2026, at 10:30 AM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat. Renowned Radiation Oncologist from P.P. Maniya Hospital, Dr. Dimpal Gadhesariya, provided detailed guidance during the event.

Dr. Jagdish Vaghastia, Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Workers Health Committee, stated in his welcome address that when cancer occurs, the entire family is devastated. He emphasized that efforts toward cancer prevention are essential for the family, society, and the nation to remain healthy.

Dr. Dimpal Gadhesariya explained what cancer is

and addressed various myths and facts in detail, stating that there is a significant need for awareness regarding radiation and cancer. While society often believes there is no remedy or resolution once cancer occurs—equating “Cancer” with “Cancel”—she clarified that this is no longer the case. Cancer screening is crucial, and the disease can be defeated through early diagnosis. She emphasized that cancer is not a contagious disease and debunked the misconception that radiation therapy kills people, explaining that it is actually intended to eliminate cancer and save lives. Furthermore, she noted that the belief that cancer won't occur without a family history is erroneous, as it can affect anyone.

Refuting the myth that biopsy causes cancer to spread, she stated it is a simple procedure with no evidence of spreading the disease. She mentioned that 80% of tumors are not cancerous and clarified that the idea of cancer thriving on sugar is a complete misconception;



**Dr. Dimpal Gadhesariya
Renowned Radiation
Oncologist**

stopping sugar does not cure cancer. Since cancerous tumors often do not cause pain until they reach the fourth stage, patients frequently delay visiting a doctor. She also noted that lung cancer does not only occur in smokers. Highlighting the increasing cases in India and Gujarat, she stated that Gujarat ranks first in head and neck cancers due to tobacco. In the country, one death occurs every eight minutes due to breast cancer. In addition to smoking, she provided information on cancers caused by obesity and a sedentary lifestyle, advising that any ulcer that does not heal within 15 days requires an immediate doctor's visit. She concluded that cancer can be prevented

through screening tests, lifestyle changes, vaccines, and a healthy diet. Dr. Sonia Chandani, Co-Chairperson of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, introduced the keynote speaker, while the entire program was moderated and the vote of thanks was performed by Dr. Rajan Desai, Co-Chairman of the Public Health Committee.

Artificial Intelligence Conclave 2026



Expert speakers Mr. Basesh Gala, Mr. Avnish Hirpara, Mr. G.R. Raghavender, Dr. Carmel Mary Esther, and Ms. Shivani Sharma provided detailed guidance on the commercial use of Artificial Intelligence, legal issues, opportunities for Start-ups, and future possibilities.

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Conclave 2026 was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Saturday, January 10, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Ushakant Hall, Sarsana,

Surat, in which Mr. Basesh Gala, Director and Lead Advisor of Simpus Exim and Corporate Advisory; Mr. Avnish Hirpara, Senior Training Officer of the Surat-Valsad Regional Office of CED; Mr. G.R. Raghavender; Dr. Carmel Mary Esther; and Ms. Shivani Sharma provided guidance as expert speakers to Start-ups, entrepreneurs, and professionals.

Chamber of Commerce President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai stated that, in today's times, Artificial Intelligence is not limited just to technology but



**Mr. Nikhil Madrasi,
President of SGCCI**



**Mr. Avnish Hirpara
Senior Training Officer of the CED
Surat-Valsad Regional Office**



Mr. G.R. Raghavender

has become an important tool of transformation for business, industry, and the economy. The main objective of the AI Conclave-2026 organized by the Chamber of Commerce is to inform industrialists and professionals about the real utility, legal aspects, and future opportunities of Artificial Intelligence.

Senior Training Officer of the CED Surat-Valsad Regional Office Mr. Avnish Hirpara provided detailed information about various training, guidance, skill development programs, and government assistance schemes available to industrialists and young entrepreneurs through CED. He said that the main objective of CED is to develop entrepreneurship among youth and provide them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and platform for self-employment and professional development. He urged Start-ups, MSME industrialists, and youth wishing to start new businesses to take advantage of CED's services.

Mr. G.R. Raghavender provided a detailed

understanding regarding various legal issues associated with the increasing use of Artificial Intelligence. He highlighted important legal aspects such as data privacy, cyber security, Intellectual Property Rights, copyright, liability, and transparency in AI-based decisions. He said that while making commercial use of AI technology, it is extremely essential to follow existing laws and regulations to avoid legal disputes in the future.

Dr. Carmel Mary Esther provided detailed guidance on how Artificial Intelligence can prove to be a game-changer for Start-ups. She stated that with the proper use of AI, startups can achieve greater efficiency, faster decision-making capability, and global competitiveness with fewer resources. She highlighted the role of AI in product development, market analysis, customer experience, automation, and data-driven innovation.

Ms. Shivani Sharma, Co-founder and CEO



Dr. Carmel Mary Esther



**Ms. Shivani Sharma
Co-founder and CEO of
Columnsprout AI**



**Mr. Basesh Gala
Director and Lead
Advisor of Simpus Exim
and Corporate Advisory**

of Columnsprout AI, presented a live demo of Columnsprout AI. She stated that Columnsprout AI is a smart AI platform specially designed for professional organizations, which makes data analysis, customer insights, automation, and decision-making processes simpler, faster, and more effective.

Mr. Baesh Gala, Director and Lead Advisor of Simpus Exim and Corporate Advisory, provided detailed information about 100x Business Breakthrough - Mindset and Systems to Scale. He stated that in today's rapidly changing business era, merely adopting technology is not enough, but developing the right mindset and systems is extremely essential. With the proper use of AI and smart systems, efficiency can be increased in business, costs can be reduced, and competitiveness can be achieved on a global scale.

In his address, Mr. Gala provided detailed guidance on leadership thinking, data-driven decision-making processes, automation, AI-based systems, and sustainable development models to lead businesses toward 100-fold growth. He emphasized the need for industrialists to come out of traditional

working methods and adopt innovative ideologies and technology.

Chamber Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, Immediate Past President Mr. Vijay Mewawala, Conclave Chairman Mr. Atul Patel, Dr. Chintan Pathak, Mr. Atul Pathak, entrepreneurs, businessmen, and professionals remained present. Chamber Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi introduced the speaker. Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Bashir Mansuri thanked everyone present at the conclave. Dr. Vandana Shah, Chairperson of the Chamber's Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation Committee, provided information about the conclave. Chartered Accountant Mr. Himanshu Gupta and Dr. Meera Sharma moderated the entire conclave.

During the Q&A session of this conclave, entrepreneurs, businessmen, and professionals asked various questions regarding the commercial use of Artificial Intelligence, legal challenges, opportunities for Start-ups, and future possibilities, to which the speakers provided useful guidance by giving satisfactory answers.

Grand Organization of SBC Cricket Tournament Premier League 4.0



Ms. Gopi Mendpara, Wicketkeeper and Bateman of the Seniors Gujarat Women's Cricket Team, attended as the Guest of Honor at the opening ceremony, while Ultra Marathon runner Ms. Khyati Patel and International Marathon runner Ms. Ratna

Mehta attended as Guests of Honor at the closing ceremony.

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized the SBC Cricket Tournament Premier League 4.0 on Sunday, January 11, 2026, at



Drift Food Park and Game Zone, Vesu, Surat. This cricket tournament has been successfully organized for the last four years by the SGCCI Business Connect Committee, with the primary objective of bringing the business world and sports lovers together.

The opening ceremony of the SBC Cricket Tournament Premier League 4.0 was held at 8:00 AM on Sunday, featuring Ms. Gopi Mendpara, Wicketkeeper and Batsman of the Seniors Gujarat Women's Cricket Team, as the Guest of Honor. Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasī, Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, and SBC members were present on the occasion.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasī, in his welcome address, stated:

"SBC Cricket Premier League 4.0 is not just a sports festival, but a powerful platform to increase mutual dialogue, networking, and cooperation among professionals. Through the tournament, along with increasing enthusiasm for sports, a message of health, team spirit, and institutional unity is provided."

Guest of Honor Ms. Gopi Mendpara remarked that sports are extremely important not only for physical health but also for developing discipline,

team spirit, and self-confidence. Such tournaments create teamwork and positive thoughts, proving useful in every field of life.

During the day on Sunday, from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM, cricket matches were played among 8 teams, in which 90 members of SBC participated. At 9:30 PM on Sunday night, the closing ceremony was held, in which ultra-marathon runner Ms. Khyati Patel and international marathon runner Ms. Ratna Mehta remained present as guests of honor. They stated that cricket and other sports inspire individuals to face struggles, remain dedicated to goals, and constantly strive for success. Such sports festivals give a positive message of adopting a healthy lifestyle in society.

In the cricket tournament played between 8 teams of SBC, HR Riders were the winners in the final, while Yotel Ka Raja were the runners-up.

The Chamber office bearers lauded Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Deepak Kumar Shethwala, SBC Committee Advisor Mr. Tapan Jariwala, Chairman Mr. Chandrakanth Prajapati, Co-Chairmen Mr. Nirav Barfiwala, Mr. Bhavan Shah, and Mr. Amit Patel, as well as Coordinator Mr. Jaymin Sheth for the successful organization of SBC Cricket Premier League 4.0.



National Woman Conclave 2026 by Ladies Wing



Famous actress of Gujarati cinema Mrs. Vandana Pathak, renowned motivational speaker Mrs. Ankita Mulani, Surat Deputy Commissioner of Police Mrs. Shaifali Barwal (IPS), and entrepreneur Mrs. Himani Bhuva provided inspirational guidance to professionals and female students regarding education, career building, self-reliance, and social responsibilities

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized the grand 'National Woman Conclave 2026' on Friday, January 16, 2026, at 10:00 AM at Platinum Hall, Sarsana, Surat. During the event, famous Gujarati cinema actress Mrs. Vandana Pathak, renowned motivational speaker Mrs. Ankita Mulani, Surat Deputy Commissioner of Police Mrs. Shaifali Barwal (IPS), and entrepreneur Mrs. Himani Bhuva provided inspirational guidance to attending women, professionals, and female students regarding education, career building, self-reliance, and social responsibilities.

On this occasion, former Union Minister of State for Textiles and Railways Mrs. Darshna Jardosh also remained specially present and inspired the women and students with confidence and self-reliance.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madras stated in his welcome address that the National Woman Conclave is a vital platform for empowerment, while Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala noted that women are playing a crucial role in every

sector today.

Mrs. Mayuriben Mewawala, Chairperson of the Chamber's Ladies Wing, provided an outline of the program and stated that the National Woman Conclave gives women the opportunity to recognize their inner strength and provide it with direction. She added that through this confluence of knowledge, experience, and inspiration, women will become more self-reliant and empowered.

Actress Mrs. Vandana Pathak shared that true enjoyment in any task comes only when it is performed with complete immersion. Addressing the students, she said that education is extremely necessary and there is no substitute for it. At every stage of life, there is something new to learn, and one should always be prepared to learn. How to transform life experiences into one's work is also equally important. Many opportunities keep coming in life, but it is extremely necessary to identify and seize those opportunities on time. The length of the role is not important, but what matters is with how much dedication and skill you perform the role you are given.



Mr. Nikhil Madrasi
President of SGCCI



Mr. Ashok Jirawala,
Vice President of SGCCI



Mrs. Vandana Pathak
Actress

She played the lead role in the Gujarati film 'Jalebi Rocks'. This film, based on a subject like menopause, is not just for women but is a film that inspires society to understand and think. She added that women's lives are also like a jalebi; despite handling everything, they maintain the balance of the family. With the special blessings of the Goddess, women have the capacity to fulfill multiple responsibilities, and that is why women are multi-tasking by nature.

Regarding Gujarati films, actress Mrs. Vandana Pathak stated that currently, the Golden Period of Gujarati cinema is underway. Nowadays, films are being made on subjects that inspire the younger generation and compel society to think in a positive direction. She added that since her acting career began in theater, she has a special attachment to the original form of acting. For this reason, all three mediums—drama, television serials, and film—are equally dear to her, and she enthusiastically accepts the opportunity to act in every medium.

In her inspirational address, renowned motivational speaker Mrs. Ankita Mulani explained the true meanings of life from A to Z in an extremely simple and effective manner. She provided students with a detailed understanding of the values and conduct necessary for success in life, such as A for Aim, B for Belief, C for Concentration, D for Discipline, and E for Effort. Through this presentation, she inspired the development of a mindset that provides the right direction to life.

She explained the importance of patriotism, discipline, and values to the students by presenting life incidents of great personalities like the former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and the former Vice President, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Additionally, she awakened self-confidence and willpower among the students by giving inspiring examples of Ms. Kalpana Saroj, who rose from zero to a hero to build a vast business empire; Ms. Arunima Sinha, who became the world's first female amputee to conquer Mount Everest with indomitable determination despite losing a leg in an accident; and Mr. Sparsh Shah, who achieved success with unwavering self-confidence despite living a life of struggle with 40 fractures since birth.

Surat Deputy Commissioner of Police Mrs. Shaifali Barwal (IPS) stated in her address that, inspired by her father, she had cherished the dream of becoming an IPS officer since childhood, and as a result of continuous study and hard work, she became an IPS officer. However, during her service, she experienced the real conditions of society, where there are many such girls who do not even receive basic education. In this context, addressing the female students, she said that the fact that you have received the opportunity to study and move forward is a great fortune in itself; therefore, you should make full use of it.

She emphasized that it is extremely necessary for women

to move forward with mutual cooperation and unity. Providing information about the 33% reservation for women in the police department in Gujarat state, she said that female police staff is operational from the grassroots level, which is not seen in many other states. Female police are successfully fulfilling responsibilities including patrolling and maintaining law and order, due to which Gujarat is known as a safe state.

She advised women and female students to visit police stations to understand police operations closely. Discussing the rising incidents of cybercrime, she said that women should become fearless and file police complaints in such cases so that the incident that happened to them is not repeated with other women. She appealed to people to immediately contact the 112 number for Janrakshak vehicles. Furthermore, she stated that there is a need to bring change to the old customs still prevailing in society, and women should lead this change with education and courage.

Entrepreneur Mrs. Himani Bhuva stated that today's woman is moving forward confidently in every field. It is extremely necessary for women to step out of the boundaries of housework and strike a harmony between business and personal life. She said that success always begins with small steps; therefore, women should make a small start and courageously accept every challenge that comes their way. She added that success is achieved only by setting a clear goal in life and following it with commitment. She stated with firm conviction that she will decide her next goal only after fulfilling her dream of making one lakh women entrepreneurs.

Furthermore, she shed light on the importance of the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationship, stating that women should not remain limited only to the home but should also capably handle responsibilities toward education, family, society, and the country. Finally, she stated that serving as a human being is the true religion, and true success and satisfaction are achieved only by working with this spirit.

Immediate Past President of the Chamber Mr. Vijay Mewawala, Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, former Mayor of Surat Mrs. Hemaliben Boghawala, women entrepreneurs, professionals, and female students remained present in the National Woman Conclave.

Mrs. Alpaben Madrasī, Vice Chairperson of the Chamber's Ladies Wing, expressed gratitude to everyone present at the conclave. Ladies Wing advisors Mrs. Reshmaben Mandlewala and Mrs. Romaben Patel, along with members Mrs. Namrataben Desai and Mrs. Seemaben Makhania, introduced the speakers Dr. Bandanaben Bhattacharya and Mrs. Swatiben Shethwala moderated the program. The speakers answered various questions from the women and female students, clearing their confusions and providing confidence by offering guidance on education, career, business, personal development, and social issues.



Mrs. Ankita Mulani
Motivational Speaker



Mrs. Shaifali Barwal (IPS)
Deputy Commissioner of
Police - Surat



Mrs. Himani Bhuva



Seminar on the Use of Pantone Tools for Color Precision in the Textile Industry

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with Pantone, organized a special seminar titled 'Color Precision in Fashion and Textiles: Leveraging Pantone Tools for Textile Innovation' on January 9, 2026, at 5:00 PM at Ushakant Marfatia Hall, Sareana, Surat.

Chamber Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, in his welcome address, noted that color combination is a term deeply woven into life. He emphasized that the profound knowledge gained from this seminar would significantly benefit the textile industry.

Keynote speaker Mr. Sam Shalgaonkar, Pantone's South Asia representative, delivered a detailed presentation on Pantone's FHI (Fashion, Home + Interiors) System and advanced digital tools.

- **Accuracy:** He explained how these tools ensure consistency and accuracy in colors from the initial design concept to final production.

- **Market Strategy:** He remarked that while they usually hold programs in metro cities like Mumbai, they chose Surat as their first tier-2 city.

- **Brand Impact:** He highlighted how major brands effectively use the "language of colors" to attract customers, underlining the special importance of shades in the textile sector.

He provided guidance on the challenges and solutions for managing color while explaining the utility of various Pantone tools. At the end of the seminar, an interesting quiz was held, and a Q&A session was also organized for the



**Mr. Ashok Jirawala,
Vice President of SGCCI**

attending industrialists and dyeing masters, in which Mr. Shalgaonkar answered various questions related to color shades and current color trends.

Mr. Ashish Gujarati, Chairman of the Chamber's Textile Task Force and Past President of the Chamber, while providing information about the objective of this program, stated that for Surat's textile industry to survive in competition at a global level, precise color management is indispensable.

The entire program was moderated, and the vote of thanks was performed by Mr. Manish Bajrang, a member of the Chamber's Textile Task Force. On this occasion, the Chamber's All Exhibition Chairman Mr. Kiran Thummar also remained present.



**Mr. Sam Shalgaonkar
Representative
Pantone's South Asia**

NRI Marriage Awareness Seminar



Jointly under the auspices of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Gujarat State Non-Resident Gujarati Foundation (NRGF), and the NRG Center operational at the Chamber of Commerce Surat, and in cooperation with Sarvajaniik University, an NRI Marriage Awareness Seminar was

organized on Friday, January 16, 2026, at 10:00 AM at Sarvajaniik University, Surat, in which Supreme Court Lawyer Priti Joshi provided detailed information regarding important precautions to young women wishing to marry youths settled abroad.

In this seminar, Dr. Parul Vadgama, Professor



Mr. Paresh Lathiya
Group Chairman
Chamber of Commerce



Dr. Parul Vadgama
Professor and Head of the Respiratory
Medicine Department



Advocate Priti Joshi
Keynote speaker and
Supreme Court Lawyer

and Head of the Respiratory Medicine Department at the New Civil Hospital, graced the position of Guest of Honor. Addressing the female students, she stated that before taking the decision to marry a youth living abroad, it is extremely necessary to develop a mutual acquaintance by taking sufficient

time. Instead of marrying immediately based merely on engagement or introduction, one should meet the youth at least twenty times and understand his nature, ideology, and behavior well. To obtain information about the youth's family members as well as their reputation and environment in the



neighborhood, one should visit the youth's home and family abroad once before marriage.

She stated that first love is not any final truth; often it is merely a momentary attraction. Since marriage is an extremely important decision of life, instead of giving place to emotionality, wisdom and maturity are necessary. After marriage, responsibilities have to be shared in the family and married life rests on the thoughts, understanding, and behavior of two individuals; therefore, one should not hide their expectations from the youth before marriage, but the decision to marry should be taken only with clarity and open dialogue in all matters.

Dr. Vadgama further said that after marriage, if for any reason the relationship breaks, it is necessary to keep an alternative plan in mind regarding education or employment beforehand so that one's future remains secure abroad, enabling one to live life with self-reliance there even without anyone's support. She also advised the young women to pay special attention to their health and diet and to maintain a proper diet so that life can be moved forward confidently with physical and mental well-being.

Chamber of Commerce Group Chairman Mr. Paresh Lathiya stated in his welcome address that in the current digital age, relationships expand very rapidly. When that relationship results in marriage as acquaintance develops and matures, it is necessary to take many precautions, and when the marriage relationship is to be joined with a person settled abroad, it becomes necessary to take more foresight.

Keynote speaker and Supreme Court Lawyer Priti Joshi, while addressing the students, stated that day by day the number of those going from India to settle abroad is increasing, and along with it, problems arising from marriage are also increasing, and because of that, sometimes complex questions arise. In the matter of marriages with Non-Resident Indians, not only Indian laws but also private and international laws associated with the more complex legal systems of the respective countries are applicable; hence, the risk remains higher in such marriages.

Young women have to face many problems such as language limitations, lack of knowledge of local police and legal systems, lack of financial assistance

that can be obtained quickly, and lack of a place where shelter can be obtained in times of trouble; therefore, young women should marry only after considering the language, food, culture, lifestyle, and home environment of the country where they wish to marry. Accurate information about the youth one wishes to marry must be obtained. She advised the young women to take important precautions before marrying abroad.

She further stated that one should not place blind trust in any bureau, agent, broker, or mediator for marriage. One should not be ready to make fraudulent documents for any reason, should not marry by being deceived by promises of obtaining a Green Card on the basis of marriage, and should not accept a proposal to go to another country to marry. The marital status of the person living abroad—whether the person is single, divorced, a widower/widow, or abandoned, etc.—should be verified. In addition to this, immigration-related status, type of visa, eligibility to live abroad as husband and wife, financial status, property, residential address, and family background, etc., should be verified carefully.

Mr. Pragnesh Lavangia, representative of the Non-Resident Gujarati Foundation, Gandhinagar, provided detailed information about various activities carried out by the foundation and about the NRG Center operational in Surat.

Sarvajani University Provost Professor Kiran Pandya, in his occasional address, told the students that marriage should not be done as long as there is no complete trust. Marriage abroad should be done only after performing an analysis of the nature, behavior, family, and neighborhood environment of the person with whom one is to marry.

Sarvajani University In-charge Registrar Mr. Ashish Desai provided detailed information about the university as well as its various activities.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Paresh Lathiya introduced the Guest of Honor Mr. Chetan Sheth, Co-chairman of the NRG Center Surat operational at the Chamber, moderated the entire program and thanked everyone present. Advocate Paresh Parekh, a member of the NRG Center Surat, introduced the keynote speaker. Keynote speaker Lawyer Priti Joshi gave satisfactory answers to various questions from the students, and thereafter the seminar concluded.

Empower MSME Summit 2026 by FICCI and SGCCI for the upliftment of MSMEs



After Surat, 'Empower MSME Summit' will now be held in leading cities of the country. An effort to turn challenges into opportunities, interesting panel discussions held on various subjects with industry experts.

Light shed on things worth knowing for MSMEs in the new labor codes, automation is now a necessity, not a luxury. Emphasis on increasing the efficiency of MSMEs through AI and digital tools.

The 'Empower MSME 2026' summit was organized by the Chamber of Commerce and FICCI HR and FICCI CMSME on Monday, January 12, 2026, at The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The main theme of this summit was "From Challenges to Opportunities - Future Roadmap for MSMEs (West Chapter)." After starting with the West Chapter in Surat, this type of summit will now be held in cities of every region.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madras stated in his welcome address that more than 300 programs are being held annually by the Chamber for knowledge

enhancement. Mentioning the Chamber's international connections, he cited the visit to Surat and the cooperation of top leaders from Zimbabwe and Botswana.

Managing Director of Luthra Group, Mr. Dhruv Luthra, said that if one wants to see India's MSMEs, then Gujarat's MSMEs provide a preview of them. They are called the backbone of the Indian economy but are seen struggling for credit. In 5 years, the number of MSMEs that export has tripled. Where there is industry, there is light.

A special attraction of the program was the fireside chat with the founder of 'Rayzon Solar', Mr. Chirag Nakrani, in which he presented his startup success story. Mr. Prashant T.S., President and Head of the Mid Corporate Group and Medium Enterprise Group of Axis Bank, spoke with him.

Head of Treasury Market Sales at Axis Bank, Mr. Brijesh B. Chahil, presented his perspective on the global market by weaving in contemporary trends.

Deep discussions were held on four main tracks



(sessions) during the panel discussion summit on various subjects:

1 **Innovative Finance and Fintech:** In this session, a detailed discussion was held on how finance, fintech, and trade innovations are transforming the development of MSMEs across India. The experts were: 1. Mr. Ratul Mukhopadhyay, Executive Vice President, SEG, Axis Bank 2. Mr. Naresh Babuta, General Manager and Regional In-charge, SIDBI 3. Mr. Narendra Sharma, Director-Sales, Mixchange 4. Mr. Indravijay Gohil, Chief Finance Officer, Online PSB Loans. They discussed emerging digital lending models, fintech-driven credit access, supply chain financing, export-enabling platforms, and smart merchant portals that simplify purchases and payments. This conversation also shed light on policy frameworks, banking partnerships, and financial technologies that help MSMEs strengthen operations, expand into new markets, and build resilient, future-ready businesses. Ms. Malati, Director at PricewaterhouseCoopers Private Limited, moderated the panel discussion.

2 **Resilient Design and Talent:** This session explored how MSMEs can strengthen people and capabilities through inclusive practices, agile organizational design, continuous skilling, and modern talent acquisition strategies. Expert speakers were: 1. Mr. Ramesh Seshadri, VP of L&T-MHI Power Boilers Pvt Ltd. 2. Mr. Manoj Sharma, CHRO, Aarti Industries 3. Dr. Nirav Mandir, Chief Human Capital and Sustainability Officer, Shree Ramkrishna Exports Private Limited 4. Mr. Shantanu Das, Senior VP-Human Resources, Zydus Wellness. Experts discussed practical approaches for developing multi-skilled teams and adopting affordable digital



HR tools to streamline recruitment, performance, and workforce development. This session was moderated by senior corporate trainer and business growth strategist Mr. Mrunal Shukla.

3 **Automation and AI:** In today's fast-paced business environment, automation is no longer a luxury—it is a necessity, especially for MSMEs striving to do more with less. Experts present in this panel discussion were: 1. Ms. Tulika Singh, Strategic Growth Lead, Bharat Cloud 2. Mrs. Premika Chandrasekharan, Director-E-commerce and Channel Management, Schneider Electric 3. Mr. Anuj Teli, Chief Information and Security Officer, Signet. It was moderated by Mr. Vivek Kaushal, Associate Group Manager-AI, Tally Solutions. Experts highlighted how MSMEs can leverage AI and affordable tech tools to streamline core operations like inventory management, customer service, finance, HR, and supply chain.

4 **New Labor Codes and Compliance:** Regional PF Commissioner of the Government of India, Mr. Sanjay Singh Gurjar, delivered the keynote address regarding the new labor codes and their implementation. He provided interesting information specifically on what MSMEs should know about the new labor codes.

Consultant at Hindalco Industries Limited, Mr. Satish Anand, presented an industry perspective and highlighted ground-level implementation challenges, best practices, and lessons learned from the large-scale compliance ecosystem.

Director at EY, Mr. Vaibhav Kulkarni, provided an understanding of compliance measures that MSMEs can adopt to sustain risk reduction, compliance frameworks, and business development.

Awareness Seminar on Joint Pain and Autoimmune Diseases



A special educational seminar on joint diseases and their prevention—autoimmune disorders—was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Sunday, January 18, at 10:30 AM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat, under the Health Series. Renowned rheumatologists of the city remained present in this program and provided health-related guidance to the people.

Senior Rheumatologist Dr. Bankim Desai said that rheumatology means the diagnosis and treatment of the symptoms and illness of rheumatism-arthritis.

There is a very important difference between gout and rheumatoid arthritis, so its diagnosis is very necessary. Through this, its progression can be stopped and in 90% of cases, it becomes much better. Like sugar and pressure, arthritis can be brought under control. The possibility of it occurring in women remains higher. Rheumatism can also happen to small children. He also provided information about rheumatic fever.

He said that the illness of rheumatoid arthritis is an autoimmune disease, and its complications are also many. It can affect all organs including



**Mr. Nikhil Madrasi,
President of SGCCI**



**Dr. Bankim Desai
Rheumatologist**



**Dr. Nishil Shah
Rheumatologist**



**Dr. Nishant Desai
Rheumatologist**

the kidneys, lungs, and heart. He warned that all rheumatoid diseases have a direct relationship with smoking.

Dr. Nishil Shah, while refuting the misconceptions prevailing among the people, said that medicines are not bad, the disease is worse. Another rheumatologist, Dr. Nishant Desai, also gave useful guidance to the people regarding this disease.

Chamber of Commerce President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai gave the welcome address. Honorary Secretary of the Chamber Mr. Bijal Jariwala,

Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, professionals, and members remained present in the seminar.

Chairperson of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, Dr. Parul Vadgama, provided information about this program. The moderation of the entire program and the vote of thanks at the end were performed by the Co-chairman of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, Dr. Rajan Desai. A Q&A was held at the end of the program, in which the three medical doctors gave answers to the questions troubling the people.

Representation to State Government in Gandhinagar to Regularize Industrial Properties Held on Possession Receipts



A delegation including Chamber Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi personally met Gujarat's Finance and Urban Development Minister Mr. Kanubhai Desai in Gandhinagar to present the representation.

Under the guidance of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai, a delegation including Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, Group Chairman Mr. Nitin Bhanucha, and Deputy Secretary Mr. Paulik Desai met the state's Finance and Urban Development Minister

Mr. Kanubhai Desai in person on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, in Gandhinagar. They presented a representation to regularize industrial properties held on possession receipts in Surat and across the state.

In Gujarat state, particularly in South Gujarat including Surat as well as other industrial areas of

the state, many industrialists have been running industries for years. Lands and properties of many of these industries are being used on the basis of Possession Receipts. Industrialists have made large-scale capital investments on such properties to set up factories, workshops, godowns, and other industrial infrastructure. Despite these industries being operational for years, industrialists are facing many practical and legal difficulties due to properties based on possession receipts.

The Chamber of Commerce delegation represented that since the industrial properties with possession receipts are not regularized, industrialists face difficulties in obtaining loans, working capital, or financial assistance for expansion from banks and financial institutions. Additionally, due to incomplete property documents, they face hurdles in transfer, inheritance, re-development and in obtaining benefits from various government schemes.

In industrial cities like Surat, many such industries are operational in sectors including Textile, Diamond, Engineering, Chemical, and Food Processing,

which contribute significantly to the state's economy, employment generation, and exports. If a policy to regularize industrial properties held on possession receipts is implemented, industrialists will get legal security, new investments will be encouraged, and the state's industrial development will gain further momentum.

Therefore, the Chamber requested the Finance and Urban Development Minister that a proper decision be taken to implement an arrangement to regularize land and properties based on possession receipts across the entire state of Gujarat, including Surat, under a One-Time Regularization Policy based on fixed rules, fees, and conditions.

Gujarat's Finance and Urban Development Minister Mr. Kanubhai Desai listened to the representation made by the Chamber of Commerce very calmly and stated that the state government will think seriously on this matter and take an appropriate decision. The Minister further added that the state government is moving in the direction of bringing a new scheme to resolve this difficulty faced by industrialists across the state.

Informative Seminar on Marine Insurance Essential for Cargo Security in International Trade



An extremely informative session on 'Marine Insurance and Claims: Safeguarding Your Cargo/ Securing Your Business' was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry

on January 17, 2026, at 5:30 PM at Ushakant Marfatia Hall, Sarsana, Surat. In this session, Mr. Punit Pandya, Divisional Manager of The New India Assurance Company Limited, provided practical guidance on how



**Mr. Bijal Jariwala,
Hon. Secretary of SGCCI**

to take cargo insurance, the types of policies, and how to simplify the claim settlement process in case of loss.

Chamber Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, in his welcome address, stated that the Chamber organizes more than 300 such informative and knowledge-based programs in a year. As Surat is now becoming an export hub, this program holds special importance.

Keynote speaker Mr. Punit Pandya said that the government is constantly making efforts to increase insurance penetration in the country. Marine insurance has been prevalent since the beginning of international trade. Parliament has also passed a special Act for marine insurance. He also discussed its important provisions.

He stated that many international conventions also affect it. To ensure that insurance settlements happen easily, he emphasized the duties of the insured and said that insurance is a contract and 'Utmost Good Faith' is its fundamental principle. According to this principle, both the person taking the insurance and the insurance company should not hide any important detail from each other. Specifically, it is mandatory for the person taking the insurance to disclose all true facts related to the risk. Providing correct information about the nature of the cargo, packaging, and the travel route is part of 'Utmost Good Faith'. If any important information is hidden, the insurance company holds the right to reject the claim.

He explained with an example that during a sea voyage, when a major crisis comes upon the ship, the goods within it, or the crew members, and if a specific portion of cargo is deliberately sacrificed or an additional expense is incurred to save everyone from that crisis, then that loss is not considered to belong



**Mr. Punit Pandya
Divisional Manager of The New India
Assurance Co. Ltd.**

to only one person. That loss is shared among all stakeholders (the ship owner and all cargo owners). This is called 'General Average Contribution'. If you have a proper marine insurance policy, the insurance company pays the share that you are required to give under 'General Average'.

Marine policy does not only cover the cargo. Giving the example of the 2021 blockage of the Suez Canal, he explained that when a ship or cargo is in serious danger during a sea voyage (e.g., the ship hits a rock or is about to sink due to engine failure), the amount paid in exchange for the services provided by a third party or company to save it is called Salvage Charges. Salvage charges are covered in a marine insurance policy. If you have proper insurance, the insurance company pays these charges on your behalf. Additionally, he explained the types of marine policies, coverage, transit clauses, when coverage starts, how long it continues, what will not be covered, the importance of spot surveys, etc.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Nirav Mandrewala provided an explanation of the importance of marine insurance in today's global trade and the objective of the program.

The moderation of the entire program, introduction of the speaker, and the vote of thanks were performed by Mr. Mehronosh Todiwala, Chairman of the Chamber's Insurance Committee. On this occasion, the Chamber's All Exhibitions Chairman Mr. Kiran Thummar, industrialists, exporters, agents, surveyors, and members of the Chamber remained present and obtained information about marine insurance through a Q&A session.



Surat ke Sitare: Young Entrepreneurs of Surat Who Shone in Shark Tank India Shared Success Stories

Inspiring guidance from young entrepreneurs on brand building, fundraising, and innovation in the ed-tech sector

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a special session titled 'Shark Tank: Surat ke Sitare' (Stars of Surat) on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at Sanhati, Sarvana, Surat. This program featured startup founders from Surat who have brought pride to the city on a national platform like Shark Tank India.

Chamber Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, in

his welcome address, stated that these young stars have realized their dreams and given a national identity to local ideas.

Mr. Anand Nahar, co-founder of ZORKO, which rapidly established over 400 outlets in 175 cities across 24 states in the fast-food-veg segment, said that their journey began from Vesu during COVID and they started offering franchisees. He noted that if one wants to hire good people, a good package must be offered. Along with machinery, one must also spend on manpower. He provided guidance



Mr. Bijal Jariwala,
Hon. Secretary of SGCCI



Mr. Anand Nahar,
Co-founder of ZORKO



Mr. Yash Tarwadi
Solance Energy



Mr. Anurag Sundarka
The ed-tech startup
Zebra Learn

on how to build a scalable consumer brand.

Mr. Yash Tarwadi, who started the solar startup Solance Energy due to being a chemical engineer by profession and sensitive to issues like climate change, said that scalability is the most important vertical of a startup. Return on Investment is important; they launched an app and tied up with brands.

Mr. Anurag Sundarka, who started the ed-tech startup Zebra Learn in the Citylight area, spoke about how he turned the initial failure of his first book into success. He remarked that even though they provide books, 'Visual First' is their priority. They emphasize quality in education and aim to provide 'Visual First' versions of

read books in the coming years.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Kamlesh Gajera set the stage regarding the rise of Surat's entrepreneurs on the national platform. In the second phase of the program, an interactive panel discussion and Q&A session were held, moderated by Mr. Rakesh Doshi, Chairman of the Entrepreneur Development Committee.

All three speakers discussed various challenges and provided guidance toward achieving success. The moderation of the entire program and the vote of thanks were performed by committee member Mr. Ahsan Kalkattawala. Chamber members and young startup enthusiasts from Surat remained present on this occasion.

SGCCI Submitted 15 Vital Proposals to Central Government for Pre-Budget Memorandum

Mr. Nikhil Madrasi, President of The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI), said that the Chamber had submitted 15 high-priority proposals touching upon the trade and industry of Surat and South Gujarat for the Pre-Budget Memorandum.

Key Policy and Income Tax Proposals

1. Issuance of Clarificatory SOPs by CBDT In view of various High Court judgments, the CBDT should issue clarificatory SOPs, similar to the RBI, to reduce disputes. During the implementation of the Income Tax Act over the last few years, various judgments have been delivered by different High Courts. Due to such judgments, it becomes difficult for Assessing Officers working at the field level to ensure uniform and proper implementation of the law. Consequently, different taxpayers are treated differently in similar situations, leading to dissatisfaction among taxpayers and widespread disputes; this demand has been made for this reason. Clarificatory SOPs are periodically issued by the RBI while regulating the banking and financial sectors so that uniform implementation occurs at the field level and regulatory uncertainty is removed. Similarly, it is extremely necessary that a practice be developed by the CBDT to analyze important High Court judgments with widespread impact and issue clarificatory SOPs until a final decision is reached by the Supreme Court.

Through such SOPs, matters such as which issues to appeal, which disputes not to pursue further, and under which circumstances to provide relief to the taxpayer can become clear. Consequently, unnecessary appeals, repetitive litigation, and time and cost for both the government and the taxpayer can be saved. Furthermore, it will help in realistically achieving the government's objectives such as "Ease of Doing Business" and a "Non-Adversarial Tax Regime".

2. System of Block Assessment Instead of separate scrutinies every year, a method of conducting assessment for a block of 2-3 years should be implemented, following international practice. Currently, because separate scrutiny assessments are conducted every year in the income tax system, the same types of issues are raised repeatedly, causing an unnecessary administrative burden on both taxpayers and tax administration. Due to continuous scrutiny, business certainty decreases and compliance pressure remains on taxpayers for a long time. On this issue, the judgment recently delivered by the Delhi High Court regarding Pranoy Roy and Radhika Roy (NDTV) is significant.

At the international level, in many developed countries, a method of conducting assessment for a block of 2 to 3 years is adopted, in which the taxpayer's income, expenses, and compliance are

reviewed together. With such a method, repetitive investigations on the same issues are avoided, the time of tax officers is saved, and the entire process becomes more efficient.

By implementing block assessment, the taxpayer will get long-term clarity and stability, and the objectives of "Ease of Doing Business" will gain momentum. Simultaneously, quality assessment and a reduction in disputes will also be possible for the tax administration.

3. **Separate Assessment for Transfer Pricing** Separate assessment processes should be adopted for Transfer Pricing and Non-Transfer Pricing. Issues of transfer pricing are extremely technical, based on international standards, and demand specialized knowledge, whereas non-transfer pricing assessment is limited to general income tax issues. Because both are taken in the same assessment process, time is wasted and unnecessary disputes arise. By arranging for separate assessment and specialized officers for transfer pricing, the process will become more efficient and quality-oriented; hence, the taxpayer will receive timely conclusions and there will be a significant reduction in long-term litigation.

4. **Effective Implementation of Section 158AB** In cases where identical issues are pending in the Supreme Court, appeals should not be made and the practice of Protective Assessment should be adopted. The purpose of Section 158AB of the Income Tax Act is to avoid repetitive appeals when the same legal issue is pending in the Supreme Court. Practically, this provision is not sufficiently implemented at the field level, which increases unnecessary litigation. By adopting protective assessment in such cases, the government's interests will also be protected and the taxpayer will not have to be dragged through the appeal process for a long time. Consequently, significant savings in judicial time, administrative resources, and costs will be possible.

5. **Validity of Claims Made Through Revised Return** Claims made through a Revised Return should not be considered invalid by making amendments to the Act.

6. **Re-implementation of Clarificatory Provision - Brief Analysis** Currently, it is observed that re-assessment is started again on the same

issues that are under consideration in appeal, reference, or revision, causing double proceedings and unnecessary disputes. Such a practice damages the fairness and certainty of the tax system. If the clarificatory provision is re-implemented, uniform implementation at the field level will be possible and excessive litigation will be avoided. Additionally, giving at least 15 days of time to respond to a show-cause notice issued for reopening an assessment will give the taxpayer a fair opportunity for proper preparation and effective response. This reform will realize the objective of a "Non-Adversarial Tax Regime" and increase trust between the taxpayer and the administration.

7. **Deadline for Filing Returns Until March 31** The deadline for filing Revised and Belated Returns should be kept available until March 31.

8. **Deadline for Refund and Additional Interest Rate Refunds** should be given within 30 days, and a provision should be made to pay 9% annual interest if a delay occurs.

9. **Deduction of Prior Period Expenses** In business transactions, many times some expenses, despite being related to the previous year, occur in the current year because their determination or bill is received late. According to the current legal status, such expenses are rejected for technical reasons, due to which the taxpayer has to bear the burden of paying more tax than the actual profit. By allowing genuine and business-related expenses of a prior period as a deduction in the current year under Section 37(1), proper income calculation will be possible. Consequently, unnecessary disputes will decrease and consistency between accounting and taxation will increase. Additionally, taxpayers will not have to go into the appeal process, and voluntary compliance will be encouraged.

10. **Set-off of Clear Business Loss** Set-off of business loss under Section 5AD should be allowed against the profits of another business.

11. **Relief for MSME and Micro Enterprises** The turnover limit of the Presumptive Taxation scheme for micro-enterprises should be increased from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 10 crore.

12. **Simplification of TDS Rates** To reduce disputes caused by various TDS rates, the TDS slabs should be limited to only 3.

13. **Abolishing Section 194Q for GST/B2B**

Transactions TDS under Section 194Q for B2B transactions and those coming under GST should be completely abolished.

14. Allow for Carry Forward of Losses for Startups registered with DPIIT and those established in the form of an LLP should be allowed the carry forward and set-off of losses as per Section 79.

15. Relaxation in Conditions for Updated Return The strict conditions for filing an Updated Return under Section 139(8A) should be relaxed.

Textile Issues

1. A representation has been made to make the import duty zero on basic textile raw materials PTA and MEG

2. A representation has been made to make the import duty zero on MMF Yam (Polyester)

3. A representation has been made to reduce the Basic Customs Duty on Silk Yam (HSN Code 5002)

4. A demand for 1000 crore has been made for the TTDS scheme or the new A-TUFS scheme.

5. Currently, there is no scheme for establishing a Center of Excellence; in such circumstances, a demand of at least 100 crore has been made for a Center of Excellence.

6. A demand for 50 crore has been made for old textile schemes such as the Yam Bank Scheme and Group Workshed Scheme

7. A demand for 500 crore has been made for Sustainable Manufacturing in Textiles

8. A demand has been made to increase the CFA (Central Financial Assistant) limit to 50 crore in the MSECDP scheme for MSMEs

9. Traders should be added to the definition of Micro and Small Enterprises in such a way that they can get the benefit of Section 43 (B)(H) of the Income Tax.

10. A PLI Scheme should be provided to MSMEs for making import substitute products, in which the investment threshold limit is also revised according to the definition of MSME

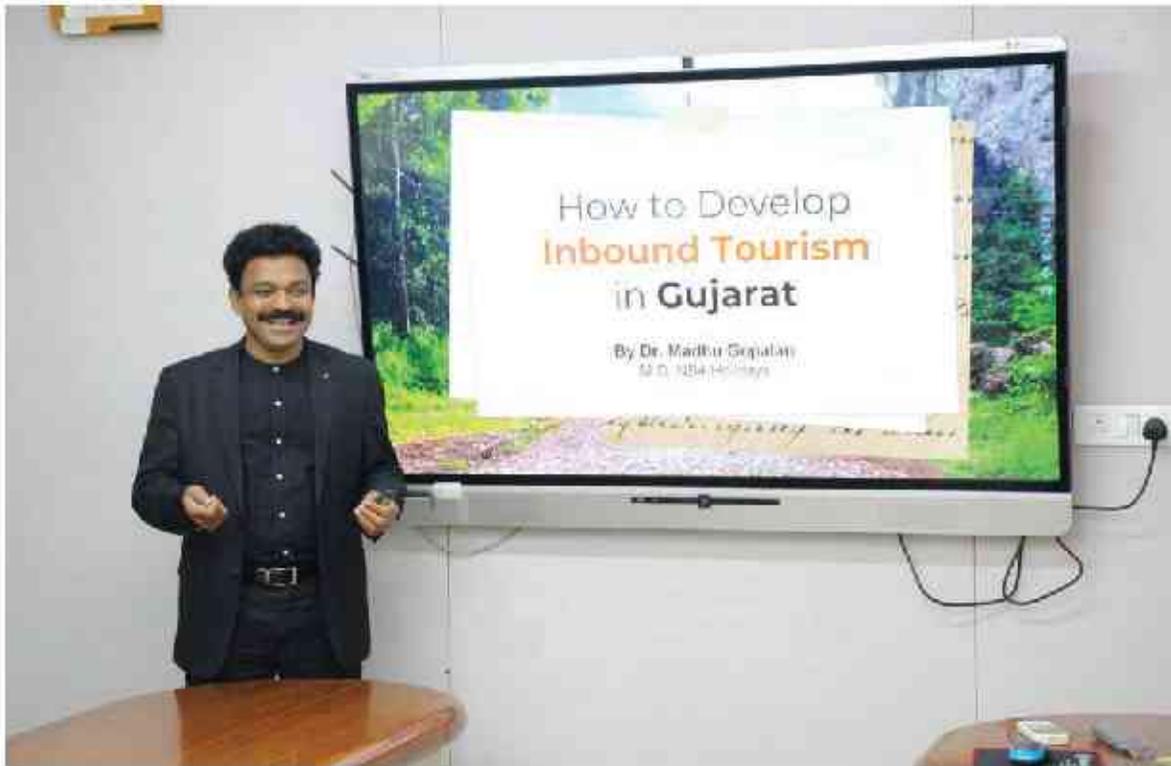
11. A Special Incentive Scheme should be announced for MSMEs to carry out product development and Research and Development

12. The Specialty Chemical sector should be given Infrastructure status and the benefit of bank credit should be provided accordingly.

To reduce logistic costs, a special fund should be allocated for the development of Domestic and International Air Cargo at various places in the country.

Special Session on Inbound Tourism Opportunities and Growth in Gujarat





Dr. Madhu Gopalan
Managing Director of 'Never Before Holidays'

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SGCCI) organized an important session titled 'Inbound Tourism: Opportunities, Strategy, and Growth' on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at Samruddhi, Nanpura. The session provided guidance on how to develop inbound tourism in Gujarat.

Keynote speaker Dr. Madhu Gopalan, Managing Director of 'Never Before Holidays', stated that immense opportunities exist for inbound tourism in Gujarat. He emphasized that to attract the large number of NRGs living abroad and other foreign tourists:

- **Digital Presence:** The first necessity is a high-quality, informative website.
- **Branding:** Focus must remain on strong destination branding and the promotion of local culture through international marketing.

Gujarat's Tourism Assets He noted that Gujarat possesses all the elements required for world-class tourism:

- **Key Attractions:** Statue of Unity, religious sites like Dwarka, wildlife and sanctuaries including the Asiatic Lion, the Rann of Kutch, and a vast coastline.
- **Infrastructure:** The state offers excellent infrastructure, safety, and heritage sites.

Target Markets and Action Plan Dr. Gopalan urged stakeholders to target hot inbound markets such as Europe, America, Canada, Japan, and the Middle East. He stressed the importance of product development strategies, including festival tourism and dedicated inbound circuits.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Sanjeev Gandhi stated in his welcome address that this session would provide an understanding of how to increase inbound business. He introduced the speaker.

Chairman of the Chamber's Hospitality, Tours and Travels Committee, Mr. Vinesh Shah, provided information about the objective of this program and current trends in the tourism industry. Explaining the difference between inbound, outbound, and domestic tourism, he said that foreign nationals coming to our place is Inbound Tourism. Mr. Vinesh Shah also performed the vote of thanks.

Ms. Ashita Jarwala, a member of the Hospitality, Tours and Travels Committee, moderated the entire program. A Q&A session was held at the end of the seminar. On this occasion, Co-chairman of the Hospitality, Tours and Travels Committee Mr. Ashish Shah, travel agents of Surat, and leaders associated with this field remained present.

Special Session on the Importance of Yoga in the 21st Century



A special session on the subject of 'Importance of Yoga in the 21st Century' was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 4:00 PM at Samruddhi, Nanpura

Mr. Vijay Viradiya of 'Real Life Yoga', as the keynote speaker, while providing guidance with yoga experiments, said that yoga is necessary for mental peace. Balance your food, exercise, and sleep, and your health will be good. Yoga plays an important role in balancing the three elements: Vata, Pitta, and Kapha (Vayu). Food, meaning diet, should be balanced. People believe dieting means losing weight, but in reality, diet means nutritious food. He advised people to become 'Mitahari' (moderate eaters) and to take food according to the season.

He said that our body is made of five elements. There are 5 points to being healthy: the first point is

that the stomach should be in digestion should be proper, one should get deep sleep, feet should be warm, the stomach soft, and the head cool, and one should live with stress-free joy. He said that sitting on a chair for a long time also puts pressure on the heart. He provided practical guidance on how yoga can provide protection against the challenges of the 21st century such as mental stress, insomnia, and diseases caused by a sedentary lifestyle. He emphasized including Asanas, Suryanamaskar, Pranayama, and meditation in daily life.

Co-chairman of the Chamber's AYUSH Committee, Dr. Nipesh Patel, gave the welcome address and provided the outline of the program. He gave information about the activities carried out by the committee. AYUSH Committee member Ms. Jayshree Patel introduced the keynote speaker. In the Q&A session held at the end of the seminar, people presented their confusions regarding yoga practice.



Mr. Vijay Viradiya
'Real Life Yoga'



Surat's Entrepreneurs Reach the Top by Learning Whatever Task They Take On; I Am Taking This Lesson From Surat and Will Advise My Children to Live Life with Such an Attitude: Mrs. Shalini Agarwal

A heartfelt farewell ceremony was organized by the Chamber for Mrs. Shalini Agarwal, Municipal Commissioner of Surat Municipal Corporation

Chamber office-bearers presented a citation to Mrs. Shalini Agarwal, expressing gratitude for her services and extending best wishes for her new tenure

A prestigious farewell ceremony was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Sunday, January 25, 2025, at 10:30 AM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat, following the transfer of Surat Municipal Commissioner Mrs. Shalini Agarwal (IAS) as the Chief of Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. in Vadodara. On this occasion, the Chamber of Commerce presented her with a citation, noting her significant contribution to the city's development.

During the ceremony, the Chamber expressed gratitude by draping a shawl and presenting a citation, wishing her success in her new role.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madras, Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala, Immediate Past President Mr. Vijay Mewawala, Honorary Secretary Mr. Bijal Jariwala, Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, along with past presidents Mr. B.S. Agarwal, Mr. Rajendra Chokhawala, and Mr. Ashok Shah, and Group Chairman Mr. Dharmesh Vaniyawala, praised the developmental works, decision-making process, and citizen-centric approach during her tenure. They specifically mentioned Surat's progress in cleanliness, urban infrastructure, digital governance, and public services under her leadership.

The Chamber leaders stated that Mrs. Shalini Agarwal provided a new direction to the city's overall development by establishing positive coordination between the government administration and the industry world. Her working style reflected both firmness and human sensitivity, proving highly beneficial for Surat.

Address by Mrs. Shalini Agarwal



**Mrs. Shalini Agarwal
(IAS)**

Recalling her experiences with Surat, Mrs. Shalini Agarwal stated that it is a specialty of the Gujarat Government that IAS officers are given opportunities based on merit and performance. Having worked as a Collector in four to five districts and as a Municipal Commissioner in two corporations, she noted that she now has the opportunity to manage the power and energy sector for the entire state of Gujarat. She noted that only in Gujarat can a female IAS officer receive such an opportunity.

Stating that all the awards Surat has received during the last three years belong to the citizens, and that "we officials only go to accept them," she dedicated all the awards to the public. She mentioned that Surat has received all these awards due to public participation, a positive attitude, and vision. Surat is a Global City, and international exposure is seen among the people of Surat.

She said that Surat city is also leading in TP (Town Planning) implementation across the whole of India. Creating a development plan for a TP is the most difficult task, but in Surat, TPs are made very easily, approved, and their implementation also happens easily, due to which facilities like roads, BRTS, service lines, footpaths, green corridors, flyover bridges, gardens, public health centers, and schools can be made easily.

Surat city is a living model of how a city can take a leap forward when the people, the administrative wing, and the elective wing are all at the same table. An Economic Development Plan has been created in Surat, for which she has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for South Gujarat; therefore, stating that she will remain

in constant contact with the Chamber of Commerce even after her transfer from Surat, she requested the Chamber to cooperate for the implementation of the Economic Development Plan.

She said that she received a great opportunity to learn in every field, including climate, flood, infrastructure, and social infrastructure. She mentioned that everyone in Surat possesses a wealth of knowledge and she had the chance to learn a lot from their experiences, which also increased her own knowledge. In Surat, with a population of 85 lakh, the Municipal Corporation's budget is 10,000 crore. She added that when cities progress, the country's GDP will also increase.

Mrs. Shalini Agarwal further added that if one has practical experience and the guts for business, then degrees and such things do not matter. What matters is your attitude toward life and how much of an attitude you have for taking risks and starting new initiatives. The people of Surat go to other cities and countries to conduct research and then start companies in Surat to provide employment to others. Once the entrepreneurs of Surat take on a task, they reach the top by learning it; I am taking this lesson with me from Surat and will advise my children to live with such an attitude.

She further added that she had the opportunity to work on many iconic projects such as the Metro, Bullet Train, and MMTH (Multi-Modal Transport Hub). Since the people of Surat travel, their exposure increases, and they also get to learn a lot. She further stated that personally, too, she is leaving having learned a great deal from the citizens of Surat.



Awareness Session on Cancer and Organ Transplantation



As part of the Health Series, The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized an awareness session on the crucial topics of 'Cancer and Organ Transplantation' on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 10:30 AM at Samruddhi, Nanpura, Surat. In this session, experienced and prestigious doctors from the health sector provided important information and guidance to the attendees.

Dr. Mahendra Khanpara (MS, DrNB - Onco Surgery) remained present as the first speaker of this session. Providing information on 'Prevention is Better than Cure', he stated that an increase in cancer cases is being seen in today's times due to changes in lifestyle. He provided an explanation regarding risk factors such as tobacco consumption, unbalanced diet, lack of exercise, and stress. Simultaneously, he emphasized that cancer can be prevented to a great extent through regular health check-ups, identification of early symptoms, and timely treatment.

Thereafter, as the second speaker, Dr. Niket

Shah (MS, MCh - GI & HPB, Liver Transplant Surgeon) gave detailed information regarding 'Organ Transplant - Facts and Myths'. He dispelled the prevailing misconceptions in society regarding organ transplantation and provided an explanation of its scientific facts in simple language. He stated that organ donation and organ transplantation provide a new direction and new hope to the lives of many patients. At the same time, he emphasized the necessity of increasing awareness regarding organ donation.

During this awareness session, the attendees actively participated in a Q&A session with both speakers and obtained resolutions for many health-related doubts. This session organized by the Chamber received an excellent response from the present members and citizens.

Chamber of Commerce Group Chairman Mr. Rakesh Gandhi gave the outline of the program. Co-chairman of the Chamber's Public Health Committee, Dr. Rajan Desai, moderated the entire program.



Dr. Mahendra Khanpara



Dr. Niket Shah

Celebration of the 77th Republic Day

The SGCCI's office-bearers and past presidents honored former Chamber President and Founder of Donate Life, Mr. Nilesh Mandlewala, for receiving the Padma Shri Award

The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a flag-unfurling ceremony on the occasion of the 77th Republic Day on January 26, 2026, at the Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre in Sarsana.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai extended Republic Day greetings to the present office-bearers, past presidents, group chairmen, members of the managing committee, members of the Ladies' Wing and Women Entrepreneur Cell, Chamber members, exhibitors, visitors, staff, and all citizens of the country.

Chamber Vice President Mr. Ashok Jirawala expressed gratitude to everyone present at the flag-hoisting ceremony and wished them a Happy Republic Day.

On this occasion, the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce of Zimbabwe, Mr. Raj Modi, and guests from





countries including Botswana, Ghana, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia remained present.

Mr. Nilesh Mandlewala, a former President of the Chamber and Founder of Donate Life, who brought pride to Surat across the country by receiving the Padma Shri Award, was honored. The Chamber's

office-bearers and past presidents congratulated Mr Nilesh Bhai

Chamber Honorary Secretary Mr Bijal Jariwala, Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, along with past presidents, members, and staff employees, exchanged Republic Day greetings with each other.



'Youth Conclave 2026' by SGCCI and Turning Point Community



Writing, reading, and contemplation are essential for success; goals should be set with complete clarity and given the highest priority; Dr. Manoj Kumar

Degrees do not make leaders, but true leadership develops only after passing through numerous challenges and difficulties; values build culture, culture shapes character, and character builds

personality; Mr. Nirmal Parekh

'Youth Conclave 2026' was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the Turning Point Community on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at 1:00 PM at Platinum Hall, Sarsana, Surat. Dr. Manoj Kumar, Executive Vice President of Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd., attended as



Mr. Aditya Bhatt



Dr. Manoj Kumar
Ex. Vice President of Intas
Pharma Co.



Mr. Nirmal Parekh
Corporate &
Management Consultant



Dr. Chetan Shah
Chairman & MD of
Solex Energy Ltd.



Dr. Monica Sharma addressing the youth during the panel discussion

the Guest of Honor, and Mr Nirmal Parekh, Corporate Trainer and Management Consultant, provided guidance as the expert speaker on the importance of leadership skills, communication, and decision-making.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasī, in his welcome address, stated that the theme of the Youth Conclave was 'Igniting Ideas - Shaping Leaders - Building the Nation'. Its primary objective was to develop innovative thinking, leadership capacity, and a sense of responsibility toward nation-building among the youth. He added that the country's future depends on the thoughts and values of its youth.

Executive Vice President of Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Dr. Manoj Kumar, who graced the position as the Guest of Honor in the conclave, while addressing the youth and students, said that writing, reading, and contemplation are extremely essential for success. One's life goal should be determined with complete clarity and given the highest priority. Explaining the importance of the Power of Repetition, he said that any goal can be achieved by repeating it in the mind many times and through constant efforts. He advised the youth that it would be more appropriate and practical to move forward only after understanding whether there is a demand in the market for the field you have a passion for and whether economic value can be obtained in exchange for it.

As an expert speaker, corporate trainer and management consultant Mr. Nirmal Parekh, in his address, provided guidance to the youth regarding the importance of leadership skills, communication,



Mr. Manav Phillips addressing the youth during the panel discussion

and decision-making. He emphasized the importance of discipline, a spirit of continuous learning, and moral values for success in life. He stated that no person becomes a leader just by obtaining a degree, but true leadership develops in them only after passing through numerous challenges, struggles, and difficulties. A leader's primary job is not just to advance themselves, but to properly guide, coordinate, and manage the people associated with them.

He further stated that culture is built from values, culture shapes character, and personality is molded by character. Every person learns from situations in life, and that experience itself becomes the true teacher. To develop leadership, it is necessary for a person to set aside their ego and focus on the learning process with complete concentration, because only a person with a readiness to learn can become a true leader.

Chairman and Managing Director of Solex Energy Limited, Dr. Chetan Shah, provided guidance to the youth regarding the resolve of 'Triple D'. He stated that whether in life or business, to achieve success, it is first necessary to have the courage to 'Dream', meaning to see big dreams. To realize these dreams, 'Dare', meaning the courage to stand before challenges and the readiness to take risks, becomes necessary. Thereafter, to transform these dreams into reality, it is essential to 'Deliver', meaning to work with constant hard work, discipline, and commitment. This Triple D formula shows a strong path to success in life.

A technical session was held in the conclave, which was moderated by Mr. Meet Desai. In this



session, the Founder of Turning Point Community, Mr. Aditya Bhatt, provided guidance to the youth regarding personal growth, focus, and a positive outlook.

Youth Projects Coordinator of the New Delhi-based Russian House, Ms. Anastasia Ilyushina, provided information regarding youth projects at the international level, cultural exchange, and global opportunities.

Youth Conclave Chairman Mr. Tanmay Tiwari provided information regarding the conclave. At the end of the program, Vice President of the Turning Point Community, Kavya Choksi, expressed gratitude to everyone present. The conclave was moderated by Mr. Yuvraj Singh. Ms. Vithika Mishra gave the concluding remarks.

A panel discussion focused on the educational sector was organized under the Youth Conclave. As panelists in this discussion, Dr. Deepak Rajyaguru (Founder and Chairman - Vibrant Group of Schools, Surat), Dr. Monika Sharma (Principal - Nandubai English Academy, Surat), Dr. Mita Vakil (Principal

- Bhulka Vihar School, Surat), and Ms. Mary Hevle (Director, Career Coach, Vadodara) presented important views regarding the holistic development of youth, changing trends in education, and career guidance. The panel discussion was managed by Ms. Sarah, while Mr. Vyom Shah played the role of moderator.

A debate was also organized to develop the thinking power and oratorical skills of the youth. As debaters, Mr. Shiv Jani, Mr. Vansh Mulchandani, Ms. Hetvi Karia, and Mr. Ayush Rao impressed the audience by presenting their views. This debate was managed by Mr. Farshaz Darayas Master. Mr. Manav Phillips played the role of moderator.

At the final stage of the program, Ms. Riddhi Gaur gave the closing introduction, followed by a Leadership Pledge taken under the guidance of Mr. Dev Babani, in which the youth resolved to be committed to responsible leadership and nation-building. It is noteworthy that this Youth Conclave 2026 proved to be a powerful platform for ideas, dialogue, and leadership for the youth.



Effort to Empower Surat's MSMEs through IPR; Intellectual Property Awareness Program for MSMEs Organized by SETU Foundation and SGCCI



A one-day Intellectual Property Awareness Program was successfully organized by the SETU Foundation and The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 10:30 AM at Ushakant Marfatia Hall, Sarsana, Surat, under the IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) component of the MSME Innovative Scheme of the Ministry of MSME. The theme of the program was "Empowering Surat MSMEs through Intellectual Property Rights"

Chairman of SETU Foundation and former President of SGCCI, Mr. Hetal Mehta, stated in his welcome address that in today's competitive global era, it has become extremely necessary for MSME industries to protect their innovative ideas, brands,

designs, and technology. With proper understanding and implementation of IPR, MSMEs can achieve sustainable development in the long run.

SGCCI President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai stated that Surat is known as an industrial city, and raising awareness among local MSME entrepreneurs about Intellectual Property Rights is the need of the hour. SGCCI is always committed to providing guidance and policy support to industries.

Head of IPFC at SETU Foundation, CS. Vijaya Maheshwari, gave a detailed presentation. She provided information regarding Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Design Registration, as well as IPR related subsidies and assistance schemes available through the Ministry of MSME. She also explained how the



Mr. Hetal Mehta
Chairman of SETU
Foundation



Vijaya Maheshwari
IPFC Head CS.



Dr. Anil Sarawagi
IP Expert



Dr. Pankaj Gandhi
IP Expert

IPFC can be useful for MSMEs.

IP expert Dr. Anil Sarawagi, in his address, shed light on the practical aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. He advised entrepreneurs to view IPR not as an expense but as an investment and explained the benefits of IP protection through various examples.

IP expert Dr. Pankaj Gandhi, while explaining the strategic importance of IPR for MSMEs, said that innovation and the protection of intellectual property are extremely essential for the value addition of the industry. He explained the process of IP filing in simple language.

Director of SETU Foundation and member of the SGCCI Managing Committee, Mr. Pankaj

Trivedi, expressed gratitude to the entrepreneurs, professionals, and collaborating organizations present at the program.

The entire program was moderated by SGCCI Group Chairman Mr. Paresb Lathiya.

Chamber Group Chairman and SETU Foundation Director Mr. Mayank Dalal, Chamber Managing Committee member and SETU Foundation Director Mr. Pradeep Patel, entrepreneurs, and professionals remained present in the program. Through this program, MSME entrepreneurs of Surat gained practical knowledge regarding Intellectual Property Rights, which became useful for them to make their businesses stronger and competitive at a global level.

Awareness Session on Cyber Security for MSMEs and Large Enterprises



An important awareness session on the subject of "Cyber Security & Cyber Resilience Framework (CSCRF)" was organized by The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Friday, January 29, 2026, at 5:30 PM at SPB Hall, Sanhati, Sarana, Surat. The session aimed to make MSME as well as large industries alert and empowered against increasing cyber threats. Expert speaker Mr. Chetansingh Pamar, Chief Information

Security Officer (CISO) of Acutas Chemicals Ltd., shed light on important issues related to Cyber Security.

Chamber President Mr. Nikhil Madrasai stated in his welcome address that in the digital age, Cyber Security for business is not just an IT subject, but a responsibility of the entire organization. Cyber attacks are becoming a serious challenge for MSME as well as large enterprises, and proper awareness and preparation regarding this are



**Mr. Nikhil Madrasi,
President of SGCCI**

extremely essential

Expert speaker Mr. Chetansingh Pamar, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) of Acutas Chemicals Ltd., shed light on important points related to Cyber Security. He stated that cyber-attacks such as phishing, ransomware, and data leakage can cause serious damage to industries ranging from MSME to large enterprises. Emphasizing Cyber Resilience, he said that security alone is not enough, but the preparation to keep the business running continuously after a cyber-attack is equally necessary.

He further stated that through CSCRF, industries can develop the capability to restore operations quickly during a crisis, along with protection from cyber-attacks. He provided a detailed explanation of the implementation



**Mr. Chetansingh Parma, Chief Information
Security Officer (CISO) of Acutas Chemicals Ltd.**

of CSCRF in simple language using real-world examples.

Chamber Honorary Treasurer CA Mitish Modi, entrepreneurs, and professionals remained present at the program. Through this session, MSME and large enterprises received important information regarding the Cyber Security & Cyber Resilience Framework (CSCRF), which proved useful to them in making their digital businesses more secure and robust.

Chamber Group Chairman Mr. Deepak Kumar Shethwala introduced the keynote speaker, Chairman of the Chamber's Cyber Security Committee, Dr. Chintan Pathak, provided detailed information regarding the program. Meanwhile, Advisor to the Cyber Security Committee, Dr. Snehal Vakilna, moderated the entire program.

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8-9-10 MAY



**CHEMICAL &
PHARMA EXPO**
15-16-17 MAY 2026



15-16-17 MAY 2026



15 16 17 MAY 2026



15 16 17 MAY '26



**SMART
EDUCATION
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15-16-17 MAY 2026



15-16-17 MAY

EXHIBITIONS FOR THE YEAR 2025-26



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An International Trade Show
1 2 3 AUG. 2025



12th & 13th September, 2025



10-11-12 October 2025



22-23-24 NOV 2025
AN EXCLUSIVE TEXTILE MACHINERY EXPO



2 TO 4 JANUARY 2026



EMBROIDERY MACHINERY EXPO
09-10-11-12 JAN 2026



24 25 26 JANUARY 2026



24 25 26 JANUARY 2026



24-25-26 Jan. 2026



6-7-8 FEBRUARY 2026



21 & 22 FEBRUARY 2026



21-22-23 FEB 2026
AN EXCLUSIVE TEXTILE MACHINERY EXPO



13-14-15-16 MARCH 2026
PULLING THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY



19 TO 22 MARCH 2026